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The Hilltop 4-17-1998

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THE HILLTOP

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VOLUME 81, No. 27

THE NATION'S LARGEST BLACK COLLEGIATE NEWSPAPER

APRIL 17, 1998

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Fashion Show Fiasco Turns Into Censorship

By CRYSTAL ROBINSON

Hilltop Staff Writer

Groans and boos filled Cramton Auditorium when the lights went out during some scenes of the Spring Fashion Show last Thursday. The content of the hip-hop and lingerie scenes was too explicit, according to administrators.

Sponsored by the Undergraduate Student Assembly, The "Odyssey" was a part of the Spring Black Arts Festival. Last week, a similar situation occurred when the Comedy Show was shutdown due to profanity.

"Censorship is an infringement of our First Amendment rights,"

said Zhaundra Jones, Undergraduate Student Assembly coordinator. "There is confusion from what [the] administration and students think their rights are."

Joel Harrison, fashion show coordinator, said censorship was not the only setback. Harrison said UGSA did not give him the money to pay designers. To prevent the designers from retracting their clothes on the day of the show, Harrison used his own money.

Jones said checks were not available for the designers because it takes 10 days after a contract has been signed for a check to be cut. The Vice-President of Business and Fiscal affairs must sign the checks.

However, the contract for the designers was not signed until the day of the show.

Harrison also said he was forced to pay the ticketed price every time he re-entered the auditorium.

"It didn't make any sense for me to pay \$50 to enter my own show," Harrison said.

With regards to administrators censoring the show, Harrison does not understand why certain scenes were cut.

"I don't appreciate them cutting a show I've been working on since November," he said. "This is my career and some of the models are trying to make this a career also."

Please See SPEECH, A4



Photo by Edouard Leneus
Students were evacuated safely after firefighters responded to a smoking light fixture in Founder's Library.

Smoking Light Fixture Causes Library Scare

By SUFIYA ABDUR-RAHMAN

Hilltop Staff Writer

Fire alarms in Founder's Library sounded Tuesday night at about 10 p.m. as a result of what some students thought was smoke coming from one of the library's book stacks.

Although students from both the Undergraduate and Founders libraries were evacuated, the situation turned out to be more lukewarm than flaming hot.

Campus police officer John Cook said a light fixture in one of the stacks burned out and began smoking.

"It set off a bad odor that smelled like something burning," Cook said. Library director Mohamed Mekkawi said somebody smelled the smoke and pulled the fire alarm, which caused the evacuation. Cook added that smoke seen above the library was actually from the power plant on Georgia Avenue.

"At first nobody really paid them any mind," Ty-Juan Skinner said. The sophomore film major was studying for a final exam when an announcement was made for students to evacuate.

"One of the librarians came in

and told everybody to run out the front door," Skinner said.

But thanks to an emergency system installed just a few weeks ago, students were successfully evacuated and no one was hurt.

"The beauty about it is that we have [in] place a system that really works," he said. Now flashing lights accompany a continuous ringing that can be heard throughout the library, which Mekkawi said is state of the art.

"It's part of a University-wide installation that the University has been undertaking," Mekkawi said. Founders was the first to receive the system. Mekkawi said the public-announcement system was installed in the stacks as recently as two years ago.

But the close call should be a reminder to Howard security of the need for a substation on campus, Mekkawi said.

"A place like that is so critical to education, it's important," he said.

The District of Columbia Fire Department arrived in two fire trucks at about the same time students filed out of the library's doors. A half-hour later, the burned-out light fixture was removed and students were permitted to re-enter.

Madeleine Albright's Discussion Disappoints Students

By KENNETH RUSSELL

World Editor

Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright said protecting the United States and its citizens from the threats of the 21st century is a complex issue to which there is no simple solution.

"The most dangerous threats, nuclear weapons, biological weapons, know no boundaries," Albright said. "Drugs know no boundaries, refugees know no boundaries, El Nino knows no boundaries."

Albright delivered the Patricia Robert-Harris Public Affairs Lecture in Howard's School of Business Auditorium. Sponsored by the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center on Tuesday, the event was the third in the State Department's "Secretary in the Classroom" lecture series.

Contrary to popular opinion, Albright said the world is more dangerous now than during the Cold War.

She said Americans should not fear the United Nations or see it as a threat to America's interest.

"We invented the U.N., we are the U.N. [and] we ought to pay our bills at the U.N.," Albright said referring to the U.S.-billion dollar debt to the United Nations. "The U.S. is the organizing principle of the international system."

She added that the U.S. doesn't want to bear the responsibility of maintaining world order by itself and is interested in forming a union of countries to share the burden.

When asked about the threat posed to America by refugees, Albright said the problem occurs when illegal immigrants come to this country and "undermine the system."

"Generally, the whole issue of refugees is a concern for the United States," she said. Albright also pointed out that she came here as an immigrant and a refugee and that U.S. foreign policy has become more complex because of the need to protect Americans traveling,



Photo by Belinda Vickerson
Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright addresses students in the School of Business.

investing and living all over the world.

The State Department's "Secretary in the Classroom" lecture gives college and university students the opportunity to talk about foreign policy. The first two lectures were held at Tennessee State University and the University of South Carolina.

Albright, the first female U.S. secretary of state, answered students' questions about the U.S. stance on international issues. But most of those who asked

Please See STATE, A4

HU Law Students Call Emergency Meeting With Dean

Forum Participants Complain Of Faulty Facilities, Low Bar Passage Rates

By NATALIE HOPKINSON

Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University Law students held Dean Alice Gresham Bullock to fire Wednesday at an emergency town hall meeting to explain the school's dismal bar passage rates, dilapidated facilities and lack of communication with students.

Nearly 200 angry students, almost half the student body, planned the meeting within a day to appease radical factions among students who have been grumbling for months about Bullock's administration.

Bullock officially became dean last year after a year-long stint as interim dean.

"We are here to put Dean Bullock on notice: the needs of the students must be met," said Alvin Thomas, a third-year student who moderated the event.

Bullock was taken off-guard by the bitter tone and urgency of the meeting, which came just a few days before final exams. Bullock said she was surprised, especially because the students had not come to her before with the laundry list of concerns.

"What you need to understand is that there is a process to getting things done, as you will see when you get out into the workforce," Bullock said. "The way you negotiate problems is not by shutting them down, but by working with the people who can help you."

Former undergraduate trustee and second-

year law student Omar Karim played a video showing deteriorating facilities that one student described as "better suited for a third-world prison."

The video depicted leaky roofs, hanging wires, decrepit walls and missing tiles and ceilings. Karim's video contrasted the condition of student areas to the administration building, highlighting Bullock's private marble bathroom with wood-paneled walls.

Bullock acknowledged that the school needs nine custodians, although they only have four. But, she said like many of the issues brought up in the forum, the lack of money prevents the problem from being easily solved.

Students sounded off on other concerns,

such as scholarships, attendance policies, student loan issues and lack of alumni support.

They also complained that the administration was not taking enough steps to increase the school's passage rate. Last year, the school sustained a blow to its reputation when the passage rates were published for the first time by the American Bar Association, the body that accredits law schools. In July of 1995, 29 percent of students passed the Maryland bar exam, where the majority of students take their exam.

Bullock said she is negotiating with two companies that help prepare students to take

Please See LAW, A4



Photo by Belinda Vickerson
Workers finish construction on Burger King, which opens today.

CAMPUS

Ossie Davis Calls On Future Generations To Continue Civil Activism, Struggle

By VALYNCIA SAUNDERS
Campus Editor

First acknowledging his responsibilities as a Black man, Ossie Davis has continued to move forward in life as an actor, director, writer, husband and civil rights activist.

Recently, in the School of Business auditorium, Davis embodied the spirit of endless struggle and the fervor with which it must continue.

"I was born into the struggle," he said. "It said [to me], up yonder is freedom, and boy you have to help us get there. ...Everything you do is for the struggle and don't you forget it."

The Howard alumnus told more than 100 students and faculty that at 80, his hopes for the future of Black America have not changed since he gave Malcolm X's eulogy in 1965.

Davis and his wife, actress Ruby Dee, started a broadcasting company to honor the contributions of Blacks.

"Power means control over resources," he said. "We need our educational institutions to teach us how to spend money Blackly. It doesn't come naturally."

It was "the cause," that Davis said brought him and his wife together. "We belonged to a cause and we were going to get it by hell or high water or die trying," said Davis, who has been married for 48 years.

Seeking to influence the world through art, speech and prose, Davis' talents have earned him honorary degrees and awards including a place in the NAACP Image Award's Hall of Fame.

Davis credits his peers and mentors, such as Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, for inspiration and guidance.

"In the core of their being, there was a strong moral code," he said. "There was, at the center of our struggle, a moral kernel...that we were doing God's work, that it was necessary for somebody to care."

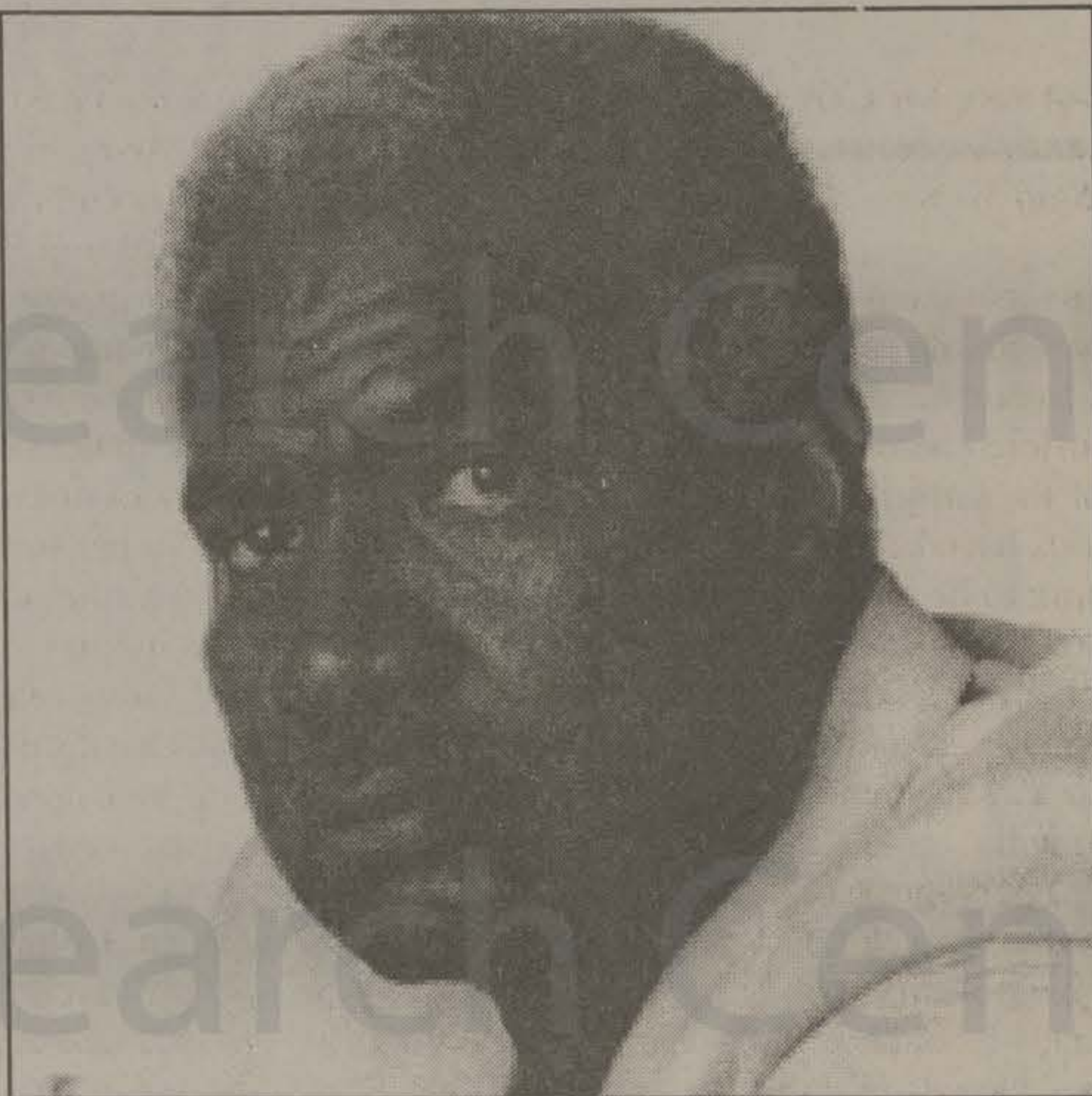
F. Michelle Richardson, next year's Howard University Student Association vice-president, remarked on Davis' words as she stood before him at the microphone.

"With your personal history, I'm speechless," Richardson said.

Davis said it is the next generations of Black Americans, not just the old, that will determine what the future will hold.

"We need a new definition of struggle," he said. "And we need to articulate it. ... We need to sing songs about it and we need to dance dances about it."

"You are the minds, you are the imaginations where all of that is to take place," Davis said. "Wouldn't it be marvelous if Howard was to say what we did back then we can do right now? I look at you, and I know you're going to do something."



File photo
During a discussion in the School of Business auditorium, actor and activist Ossie Davis urged students to spend their money at Black-owned businesses.

HU Tutors Learn Lessons From D.C. Students

By NAOMI PORTERFIELD
Hilltop Staff Writer

Victoria Nesmith stood before her fellow tutors of the D.C. Reads program with tears in her eyes. As her hands clenched the sides of the lectern, a low, quivering voice emerged.

"Those are my babies. I'm going to be heartbroken without them," she said.

Nesmith is one of more than 100 college students who tutors local elementary school students through the D.C. Reads program at Howard University.

Tutors celebrated the end of the program's

first year on campus with a closing ceremony on campus Tuesday.

Initiated in August 1996, D.C. Reads stems from President Clinton's America Reads Challenge — a call to communities, colleges, private institutions and citizens across the country to help ensure that every child can read by the third grade.

Six months later, that call became the mission of the D.C. Reads program and the Howard chapter followed in September.

Howard students participate in D.C. Reads as a part of the work study program through financial aid. Tutors work at five District public schools, as well as two after school community programs under the

direction of coordinator Gwendolyn Jones.

Participating elementary schools include Garrison, Bruce Monroe, Gage Eckington, JC Nalle, Bowing, New Community and Drew.

Program coordinators Mary Hoover and Wilford Johnson, of Howard's School of Education, were on-hand to congratulate all who helped make literacy a goal in the lives of youth.

Vincent Pann, executive director of UN-DC Initiative, and Maurice Sykes, a teacher, were also supportive of the program along with Kathy Henderson of Garrison Elementary.

In the midst of their celebration, tutors

reflected on what they gained from the students.

"I learned patience, tolerance and love," said Shawna McCurdie, a tutor at Anthony Barnes Elementary School since June 1997.

Jacob Ortiz said these lessons were the first step to C.H.A.N.G.E. — Connecting Howard and Neighborhood for Growth & Empowerment.

C.H.A.N.G.E. is a new program being implemented at the Howard University Community Association Office. It is through programs such as these that D.C. Reads coordinator, Gwendolyn Jones, said that tutors act as ambassadors to the com-

munity and will further combat the stereotype of Howard students having little involvement in the outlying community.

Some tutors, like Peter Mott, said they have seen evidence of the impact service can make.

As a tutor at Bruce Monroe, Mott said not only did his student's reading ability increase in the past year, but the child also stayed out of trouble with teachers more than before.

"I really like the program because it helps us read. It helps us learn words," said a second-grade student from Garrison Elementary. "I think that this program is great."

Professors Offer Solutions To Caribbean Development In 21st Century

By CLARENCE JULIEN
Hilltop Staff Writer

The Caribbean's ability to compete in the 21st century will depend on changes in its political, economic and educational systems, political experts say.

"The greatest problem is the question of governance," said David Hinds, assistant professor in the department of history. "There are not enough mechanisms for ordinary people to be involved in the political process."

Hinds spoke at a panel discussion titled "Caribbean Development for the Next Millennium" at the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center Tuesday.

He said the political system in the Caribbean is a replica of that inherited from colonial Britain and there is a need to look for alternatives.

"We need to make politics a civic duty, a responsibility," Hinds said.

The panel focused on creating wealth throughout the Caribbean through the use of technology, international trade and education as ways to enhance development for the upcoming millennium.

Ransford Palmer, chairman of the department of economics, said markets should be restructured in preparation for the new century.

"The private sector needs to invest in new institutions to create the right kind of education for young people, an education that encourages them to absorb the technology necessary for a more productive workforce," Palmer said.

He added that the Caribbean islands should move away from the dependence on

agricultural products.

The discussion was part of a week of activities sponsored by the Caribbean Students Association in celebration of "Caribbean Week." Other highlights of the week include a fashion show on Saturday and an awards dinner on Sunday.

Associate professor of Caribbean history, Selwyn Carrington, said there is no doubt about the region's ability to produce wealth.

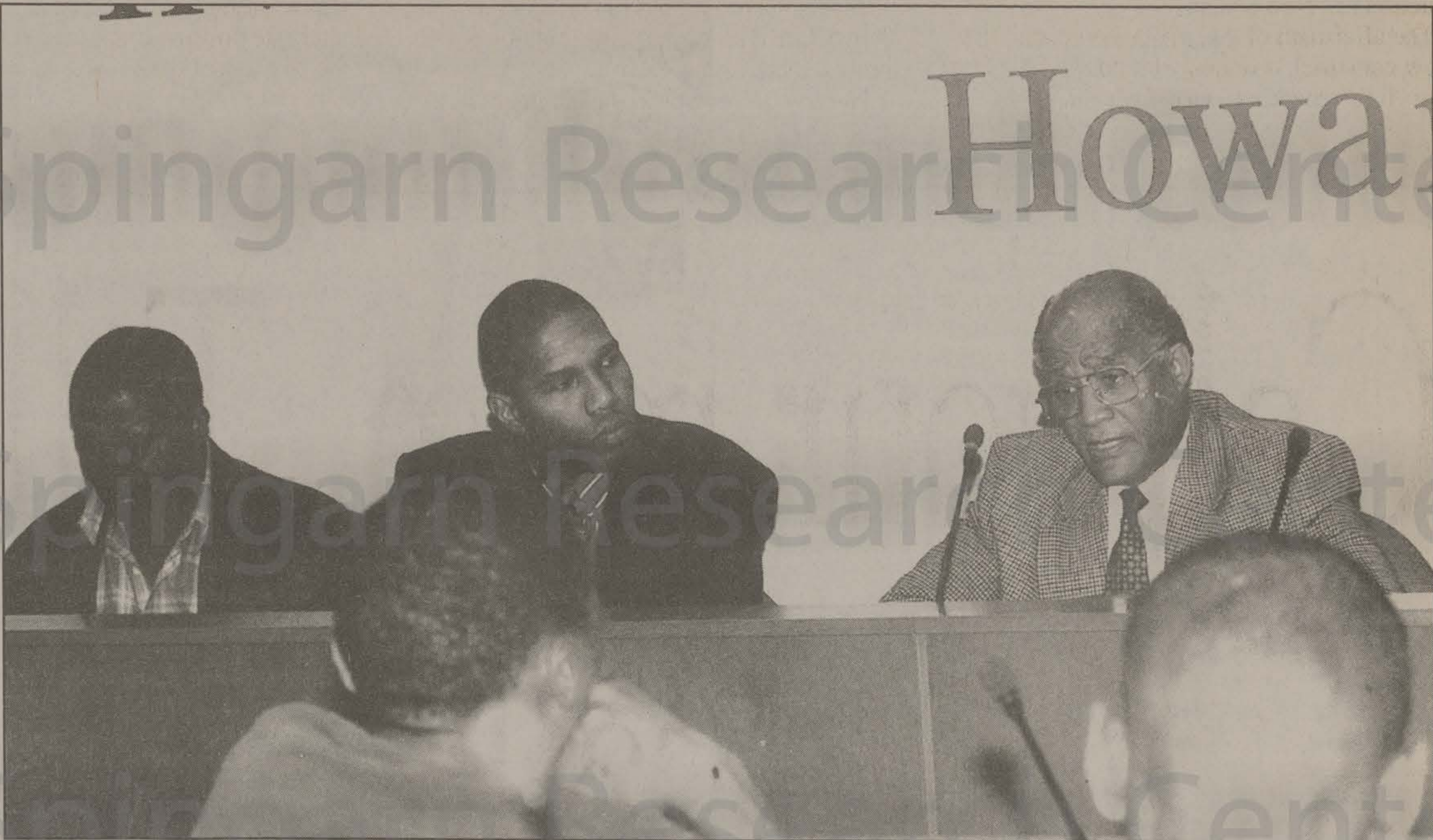
"Since the 18th century the Caribbean has produced [and] helped to build other nations. However, they have become dependent on other countries and need to liberate themselves," Carrington said.

He said the problem has been that West Indians do not own the source of the wealth on the islands.

"The ship that carried every hogshead of sugar to Britain was owned by the English, not West Indians," Carrington said.

Hinds said the governments in the Caribbean need to be reworked.

"The Caribbean needs to form a consensus government instead of a majority government," Hinds said. "We need to look at America's system of government where checks and balances of the judicial and legislative branches are strong enough."



Panelist discussed economic, political and technological development in the Caribbean.

Photo by Belinda Vickerson

Also discussed was the private sector's role in subsidizing funds for technology and education.

Some believe that the private sector will only seek financial gain for themselves and

not generate opportunities for young people.

"Most corporations are only looking at a profit, not the interests of people," said Easton Moore, president of CSA. "Technolo-

gy is useful, because it is the major means of creating of wealth. The people must take technology in their own hands and make it work for them."

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CAMPUS

‘Distance-Learning’ Technology To Provide Access To School Of Divinity

By VON-ANISE MCCOY
Hilltop Staff Writer

The University announced Tuesday that it will provide new technology for students in the School of Divinity to combat minimal availability of courses that are offered across the nation.

“One of the things that many historically Black universities have been behind in is technology. Now we’re going to be in the forefront,” said the Rev. Kevin Donalson, student government vice-president of the School of Divinity.

Donalson, a senior, said although he may not be around to reap the benefits, those students who come after him will.

“More pastors, preachers and religious leaders have access to divinity school. When I was ready to get a degree I had to leave my church to come to D.C., but with the new technology that will not be a problem for others,” Donalson said.

The possibilities for future theologians are endless thanks to Hughes Network Systems. HNS has recently entered a partnership with Howard’s School of Divinity to provide what HNS calls “DirecPC hardware.”

The \$2-million service will provide a nationwide distance-learning initiative scheduled to be imple-

mented next school year.

“We received the service for about 10 percent of the normal cost,” said Vanessa Hill, director of Media and Public Relations Information and Service Clearinghouse. “A grant in the amount of \$150, 000 and some outside donations is covered in the total cost of the connection.”

With the program’s financing taken care of, the School of Divinity plans to use its funds to build churches in lower-income areas. Access to multi-level, interactive distance learning via video conferencing has also been a priority.

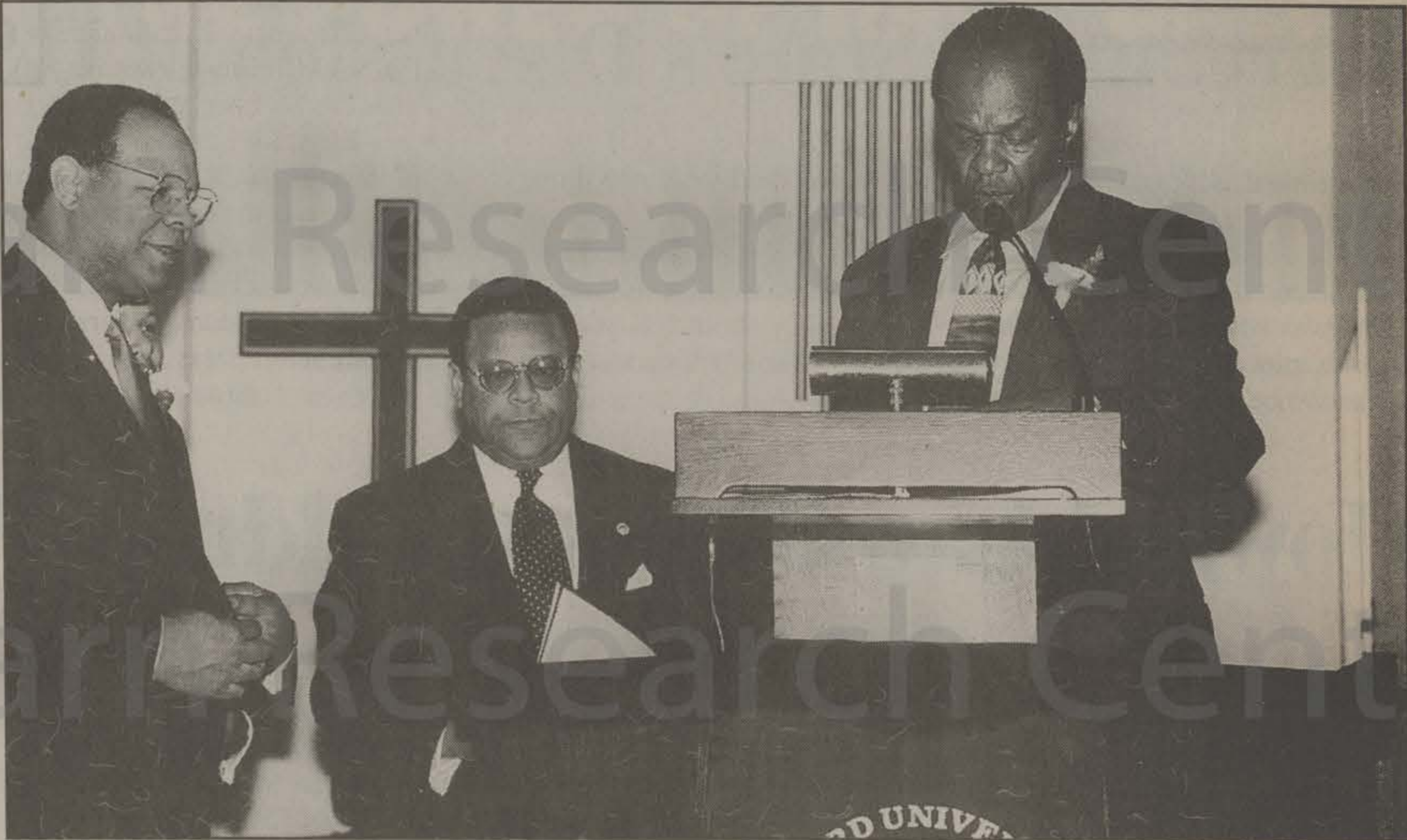
Clarence G. Newsome, dean of the School of Divinity, said he is not surprised that the cornerstone of the University is where the new technology will start.

So far there are five charter distance-learning centers in Columbus, Ohio; Hampton, Va.; Oakland, Calif.; Jacksonville, N.C. and Harvey, Ill.

Hill said the program will strive to include more schools in the future.

During a ceremony at the School of Divinity, Mayor Marion Barry spoke of Howard’s commitment to excellence and sited the distance-learning program as an example.

“For 127 years Howard University’s School of Divinity has helped God’s people to live free and spiritual lives,” Barry said.



Dean of the School of Divinity, Clarence Newsome, President H. Patrick Swygert and Mayor Marion Barry unveil the new distance-learning technology.

Photo by Belinda Vickerson

Howard’s ‘Newsvision’ Gets New Look, Format

By CYNARA ROBINSON
Hilltop Staff Writer

When Wylona Tabb saw an old student-produced show with a new look, she perked up.

“I have seen ‘Newsvision’ this year, and I like how it has changed,” said Tabb, a junior accounting major.

Like Tabb many students are beginning to take notice of the new format and style of “Newsvision.”

In the beginning of the Fall ‘97 semester, the departments of Journalism and Radio, T.V. and Film decided to pool their talents and resources to add to Howard University’s production of “Newsvision.”

The aftermath of this merger produced the new construct, a student-run talk show featuring HU’s broadcast journalism students.

The longtime student-produced broadcast, which airs Sundays and several times throughout the week on WHUT Channel 32, is under the direction of 14 year HU professor Otis Thomas.

“‘Newsvision’ has progressed to true professionalism with its own unique format combination. We are the real thing now and are a part of the competition,” Thomas said.

The 28-minute broadcast now utilizes the format of live talk show news with two to four guests per show and real broadcast packages from student reporters.

Shot by videographer, Byron Ezell, topics include segments on education, employment, health and entertainment.

Broadcast journalism students produce the show while television students shoot and direct the broadcast.

“The new ‘Newsvision’ is this inter-working

of the cross disciplines to help support program and allow students needed experience,” Thomas said.

Professor Lamont R. Gonzales, whose students direct the show, said “Newsvision” is a learning experience that stresses teamwork among students.

“This is a legitimate broadcast and is an educational vehicle just like *The Hilltop*, in which the students elevate as they go along,” Gonzalez said.

“Newsvision,” Gonzales and Thomas said, is good experience for students who want a career in front of or behind the camera.

The show has three anchors who host and introduce news packages. The anchors, Cherie Black, Jason Shaffner, and Marissa Atkins alternate on various tapings, but all agree that the concept of the show is a chance to gain experience.

“I feel that this is a good opportunity for students to be a part of a production, and I think that the classes should work and rehearse more closely together because the more experience the better the show,” Shaffner said.

The goal of the new “Newsvision” for this year was to do 10 shows and students have almost completed that goal with four left. With topics that are community oriented, crew members said they have received positive feedback.

“It seems to be a nice chance for students to get experience in what they will be doing for the rest of their lives,” Tabb said.

“Newsvision” has already featured special guests such as actor/director Bill Duke who directed “Hoodlum.”

“With the new enthusiasm we expect to add more shows and soon to have live shows,” Thomas said.

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CAMPUS

Spring Black Arts Festival Raises Censorship Issues

From SPEECH, A1

"We are college students, not in elementary school," said Jo-Ann Enwezor, a model in the show. "They treat us like children, but expect us to conduct ourselves as adults in the classroom."

Cramton Auditorium management was unavailable at Hilltop press time.

"When the lights kept going out during some of the scenes, I thought the show was going to be canceled," said Ayana Van Putten, a sophomore television major. "Although the show continued, it certainly seemed as

if scenes were cut short."

Despite complications, Harrison said he was pleased overall. But he said he is worried about not getting paid for his work. But Jones said payment should not be a concern for Harrison.

"All I need is an ending report from each coordina-

tor, and then steps will be taken to get checks from University," she said.

Jones, students and administrators plan to hold a meeting to resolve these issues.

Secretary of State's Discussion of U.S. Foreign Policy Dismays Students

From STATE, A1

questions said they were disappointed with Albright responses.

"She was very vague," said Pierre Cyriagu, a senior English major. "Seeing that her audience was predominantly Black,

she said what she thought we wanted to hear instead of addressing the issues."

Esigie Aguele, a junior electrical engineer major, said Albright lacked consistency about U.S. policy toward Africa.

"She did not address the fact that human life does not seem to be valuable in Africa

as it is in European countries according to American foreign policy," Aguele said.

However, Bolaji Aluko, chairman of the department of chemical engineer, said those answers were to be expected.

"You don't expect specific answers from diplomats, especially when they don't

have the final word," he said.

Provost Antoine Garibaldi agreed.

"I think the secretary will always be vague. We cannot get into all the issues in a question and answer session," Garibaldi said.

Howard University President H. Patrick

Swygert, said he was impressed with the discussion and called it "a rare opportunity to ask questions of the secretary."

"It is part of the Howard experience," said.

Howard Law Students Address Problems Within The School

From LAW, A1

the bar and by May 2 she will announce which one will be coming to the school to help the students prepare for the bar.

Provost Antoine Garibaldi also

defended Bullock, noting that poor bar passage rates are a concern facing all African Americans. Garibaldi appeared in place of President H. Patrick Swygert who was out of town for a previously-scheduled appointment.

"The dean does not do it all herself," Garibaldi said. "And some of these concerns should be taken care of in another setting, and not in a room full of 150 people."

A student shot back from the audience: "You can't sit here and ask us

to take more notes and be patient. We are out of patience."

Bullock, who received her undergraduate and law degrees at Howard, has spent most of her professional career at the university first as a professor, then as an

administrator.

President Swygert chose Bullock from a pool of three finalists, which included Charles Ogletree, a renowned Harvard law professor who coached Anita Hill as she testified during Supreme Court Justice

Clarence Thomas' confirmation hearings. Ogletree abruptly withdrew his bid for the position shortly before Bullock was named.

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CITY

D.C.'s First Elected Mayor Shares His Political Past

By Q. TERAH JACKSON III

Hilltop Staff Writer

Walter Washington, the District's first elected mayor during this century, has lived in the same white house in LeDroit Park for the past 54 years.

Standing outside on his porch on a bright Sunday afternoon, he still attracts a crowd. Similar to a famous recording artist or movie star, women in a passing car stop to honk the horn. They say he's still attractive and that they want to marry him.

"Thank you," he says as he smiles and waves goodbye.

The former mayor used his charm and social grace to calm a city in the midst of change. Under his leadership, the District was carved into a city — no longer a federal province.

Washington's achievements are still felt, said Reco Griffin, a 24-year-old resident of D.C.

"Simply the fact that he was elected the first Black mayor of the nation's capital, which is the seat of power of the entire world, is monumental within itself," he said.

One of Washington's major challenges was balancing race tensions, Griffin said.

The riots of 1968 brought racial strife into the streets of the District.

In response to Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, looters ran the streets while 710 American cities burned.

Shortly after his inauguration, Washington had to respond. Police officers were ordered to shoot on sight, except in Washington, D.C.

The National Guard and the Metropolitan Police Department were ordered not to shoot looters by Washington. The Congress and the business community disagreed with Washington, he said, but he had President Lyndon B. Johnson's support.

"If we had spilled blood at this time we could never have gotten it back," Washington said. Morality was his defense.

As President of the Howard University Student Council during 1937-38, Washington organized a boycott of classes and sporting events to get a training table for athletes to eat before games.

Howard Thurman, former dean of Rankin Chapel, advised Washington to tell the University Administration that not having a training table for HU athletes was unjust, Washington said.

An enraged Mordecai Wyatt Johnson, former president of Howard University, cared more about the University's embarrassment than the morality of the incident, Washington said.

Washington risked expulsion, but the training table was provided later that year.

This was the last civil rights campaign Washington organized at Howard before he graduated in 1938.

However, for the entire summer of his junior year, Washington along with students Edward Brook and William Brown and numerous student athletes, picketed People's Drug Store, owned today by CVS Pharmacy.

African Americans were able to purchase good from People's, but could not eat inside the store.

Washington said he was influenced by the large African-American population in the District and segregation.

As mayor of Washington D.C., Washington challenged southern segregationists in the streets, in local government and in Congress.

Washington said Johnson told him, "I want you to do this, but I don't think you'll last a year with all those southerners on the Hill."

Nevertheless, Washington served in office for 11 years—including



Photo by Q. Terah Jackson III
Former D.C. mayor, Walter Washington, used his charm and social grace to calm a city in the midst of change.

two Presidential appointments and one election.

Taking A Capital Stand

President Johnson asked Washington to be president of the three commissioners of the District in 1976 — without control of the police and the fire department. He refused. He became chairman of the New York City Housing

Authority. Johnson appointed Washington to commissioner of a new District government the next year.

Prior to his appointment, the District's government consisted of three commissioners and nine city council appointees. However, Johnson replaced this system with one commissioner, a vice commissioner and a city council of 13 appointed officials. Washington was

appointed commissioner with full control of the police and fire departments.

President Richard Nixon reappointed Washington against the opposition of local republicans in 1973. On Christmas day, the same year, Richard Nixon signed a bill that allowed limited Home Rule to the District, Washington said.

"There is not the slightest doubt that Congress' enactment of the D.C. Home Rule Bill, last year, was strongly influenced by the confidence and trust with which Walter Washington is regarded on Capitol Hill," stated an editorial from *The Washington Star* published in 1974.

That same year, he won the District's first mayoral election of the 20th century.

Washington At His Best

One billion dollars was transferred from a highway building fund to create the Metro rail, Washington said. He said he was also responsible for integrating the police department and local government.

"The D.C. government pre-Walter Washington was a White plantation government. Every department was White," wrote *Washington Post* staff writer Milton Coleman in 1978. "A Black man couldn't even get to the fifth floor on the District Building. Walter Washington eliminated all that."

Washington enacted a nationwide search for local government officials that was geared toward African Americans.

As a result, today most local government officials are African American.

"He brought into the city, 1960s politics, which Mayor Barry, Eleanor Holmes-Norton and John Ray were benefactors," Griffin said.

Marion Barry defeated Washing-

ton in 1978.

Washington was urged not to seek re-election because he was wealthy he worked too hard and his closest aides mismanaged funds and didn't understand the needs of the citizens, said media sources.

Washington Without Washington

Washington said Barry was elected because "in good times people are willing to try something new. Though Washington witnessed the District fall into turmoil, he refuses to comment on Barry's performance, he said.

Although he has no plans of seeking another term as mayor, Washington said mayors should be limited to two terms, he said.

He was concerned that the District's control board excluded elected officials from the rebuilding process.

"I believe the best days are ahead for the city with the control board and the elected officials working together with Congress and the White House," Washington said.

He says he owes his entire career as mayor to his education at Howard University. Through the teachings of his professors Ralph Bunche, E. Franklinrazier and Alain Locke, Washington said he learned the meaning of excellence and balance.

Upon graduation from Howard, Washington was been an active member of sports, politics and the campus' publications.

"My broad activities served me well as I moved through the ranks of my career," Washington said.

He also graduated from Howard University's Law School.

Washington said he decided to continue to reside in LeDroit Park because of the "community feel" and it is also in close proximity to Howard.

New Fitness Club Combines Culture With Aerobics To Battle The Bulge

By MARK JENNINGS

Hilltop Staff Writer

Margaret Dureke does not sit in a courtroom fighting to free the innocent or convict the guilty although she has earned a law degree from American University. Nor is she using the political science degree that she earned summa cum laude from Howard University to debate the never ending social issues of our time.

Dureke hung up her business attire and surrendered the comfort of an air-conditioned office for the confines of a one room storefront business located in Hyattsville, Md.

Now when she goes to work, she wears spandex leggings and T-shirts. Her job is to jump, stretch, dance and sweat as co-founder and chief aerobics instructor of Jah's Fitness Inc.

Jah's did not exist five years ago and Dureke, who describes herself as "an active person," was battling with obesity. She blossomed to 220 pounds and her dress size fluctuated often.

"I kept going up and up and the maximum size I got was an 18," she said. "One day I was in my room trying to pick up a brush and half of my stomach moved over with me, that's when I said I cannot live this way anymore."

Dureke tried the large chain and

"mom and pop" fitness centers, but none of them provided her with a warm and personal environment.

With her attempts at finding the perfect weight loss centers failing, she retreated to her basement. There she began working out to African and Caribbean music and in the process, began losing weight.

After shedding 92 pounds from her frame, she patented the idea. She has since made it available to the public through the concept of Jah's fitness.

"Everybody thinks aerobics is the concept of doing jumping jacks," Dureke said. "What we do is show them how to exercise the major muscle groups in their body using high intensity aerobics, coupled with proper breathing techniques choreographed to African, Caribbean and Latin music which soothes the soul."

A friendly environment is an important entity to anyone aspiring to get fit. Monette Austin, who now works out at Sport and Health in White Oak, Md., left Bally Fitness Center because of its impersonal approach.

"The trainers walked around with their hands in their pockets and talked on the phone," she said.

A family atmosphere is an aspect of Jah's that keeps its customers coming back each week.

"Once they come in we try to talk to them to see what it is that keeps

them from reaching their goals," Dureke said. "We have a personal touch with the people and we try to connect with them on an emotional, mental, psychological and cultural level."

The concept hooked 5-foot-11 inch, Darlene Murphy, a full-figured model and softball player who weighs 264 pounds. After finding herself, "huffing and puffing about the bases more than usual," she turned to Jah's in September for help with increasing her stamina, and to rid her body of excess fat.

"This is the longest I have ever stayed with an aerobic program and I get the personal attention needed to make sure I am doing the exercises properly," she said. "The staff at Jah's really motivates me to work hard at what I am trying to accomplish."

Dureke and her husband selected Jah's as the company name because of its spiritual ties.

"Jah means strength and power," she said. "As people of color, without the strength of God it is impossible to get anywhere."

It is a fitting title. The business continues to flourish since it first opened its doors. Jah's had over 350 participants of various nationalities walk through its doors.

It has relocated twice to accommodate the growth. They are annual participants in News Channel 4's Health and Fitness Expo. They also produced two fitness videos and even expanded into the fashion industry with their line of shorts, T-shirts and other apparel.

Despite their sudden growth, Dureke said the lack of a major sponsor to help with promotion and distribution makes it a challenge to pay the bills and keep costs low.

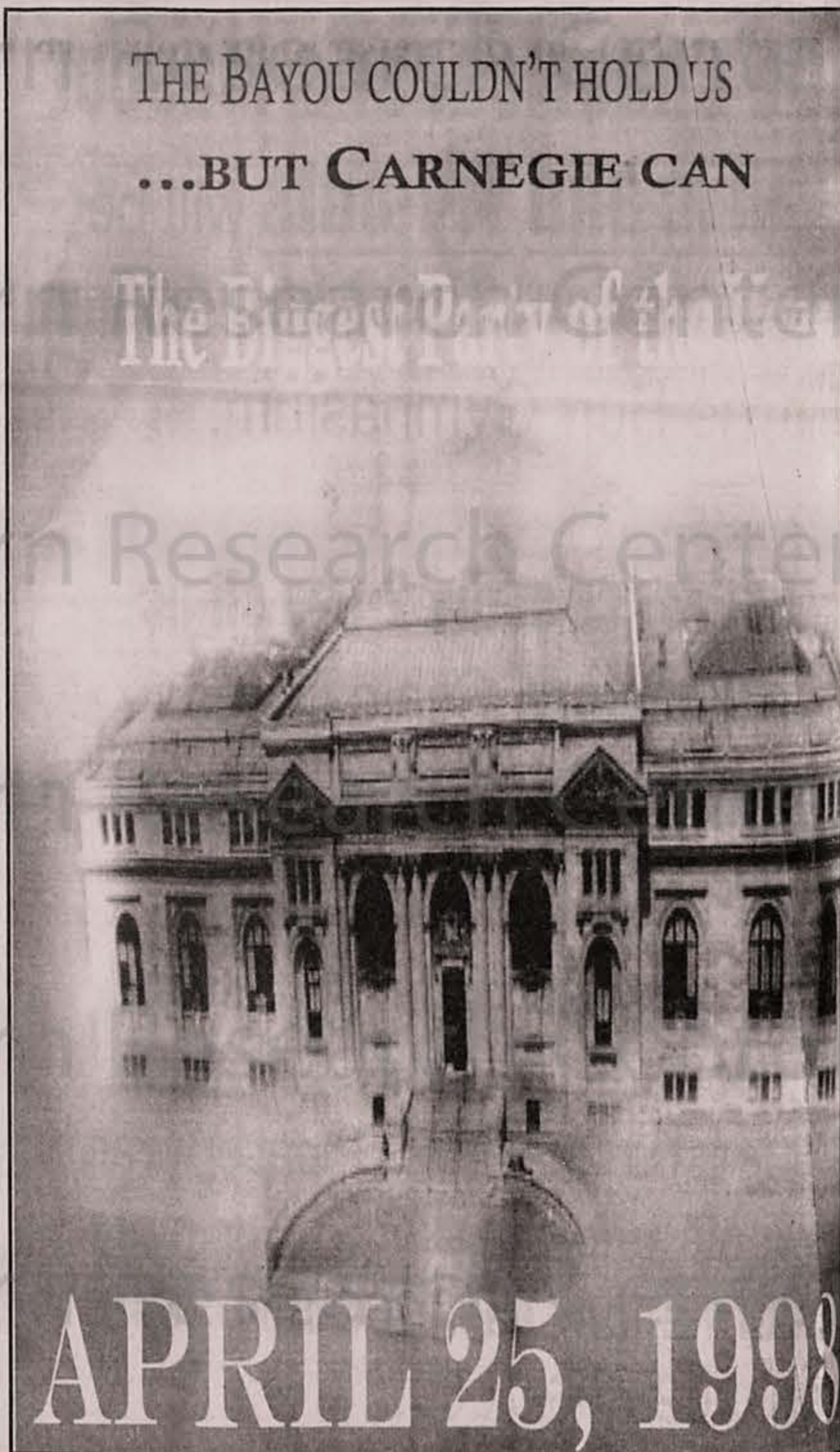
However she does not let money worry her and comes to work everyday reveling in her chosen job as a calorie killer.

"When I see a smile or the phone rings and somebody says, 'Margaret, I lost weight,' that brings me joy and you can't buy that," Dureke said. "The money part is up to God."



Photo by Belinda Vickerson
Margaret Dureke leads an aerobic class at Jah's Fitness.

THE BAYOU COULDN'T HOLD US
...BUT CARNEGIE CAN



Million Youth March Organizers Open Washington Headquarters

LOLLY BOWEAN
Staff Editor

For almost two months Awjah Muhammad has been busy sending faxes, making phone calls and recruiting volunteers to help organize and operate the local headquarters for the upcoming Million Youth March. The doors to the headquarters located in Northeast Washington officially open next week with a kick off Black Power rally at Marcus Garvey Charter School. The rally is scheduled for Tuesday.

This is to begin to mobilize the youth," said Muhammad, one of the main planners at the local headquarters. "We will be registering young people and gathering everyone who wants to participate in this historical event."

The Million Youth March is scheduled to be held Sept. 5 in New York City. Its goal is to promote peace and activism among young people ages 25 and under. The March will be at Central Park 5th Avenue where they expect more than three million youth to attend.

To ensure a big turnout, organizers have asked volunteers and grassroots organizations to open headquarters and information centers in their states.

So far, information centers have opened in 28 states including Alabama, Illinois, Maryland, New York, and Virginia.

Although the local headquarters have been operating for a couple of



Malik Zulu Shabazz, left, and Awjah Muhammad are the local organizers for the Million Youth March.

weeks, the rally is the official opening.

"Anybody who wants to get on board and volunteer should come to the rally," Muhammad said. "We have to take over this city. There needs to be a starting point and that is what the rally is all about, it is our starting point."

Khalid Abdul Muhammad, the national spokesman for the March, is scheduled to speak at the rally. In addition, Malik Zulu Shabazz who serves as the National Youth Director will speak.

"We are inviting all Howard students and the community to the rally so that young people again can take a bold and strong stand on

behalf of themselves, their community and the future of the Black nation," Shabazz said.

Student leaders, former gang members and Louis Farrakhan are expected to speak at the march. Organizers said they are planning computer workshops and educational demonstrations.

Shabazz said the march will be the beginning of a youth network, where youths from all over the country will be able to communicate.

"We have concrete goals that we will achieve," Shabazz said. "A major goal of the march is to demand that Black youth and young people become computer literate

and educated to communicate with each other and advance the progress of our people."

Awjah Muhammad said she hopes the opening of the center will get more students involved in recruiting and encourage more people to take an interest in attending the march.

"We are trying to find leaders and bring them on board," she said. "We expect D.C. to be the main city that will be recruiting young people. No matter where Black people get together, D.C. always has to represent."

Photo by Lolly Bowean

New Plan Set To Increase Seat Belt Use By Minorities

KENYATTA HARPER
Staff Writer

When Jeremy Brown drives his car to work everyday he hardly ever wears his seat belt. "I never really think about it. It's just something I don't do on a regular basis. I can't think of any my friends that always wear a seat belt," said Brown, a 26 year-old African-American male.

Black motorists against the police.

The Clinton Administration stated that the negative outcome of the law does not outweigh the positive. A press release by the Department of Transportation showed that Black males are more likely to be injured in a serious accident than any other group.

"This law is about saving lives. And the lives most likely to be saved are Black males," one Department of Transportation official said.

lowest rates of seat belt usage in the nation, 58 percent. The District passed a law this year that makes seat belt usage a requirement for all passengers and gives the police the right to stop a vehicle if it appears that the passengers are not buckled up.

According to the District government seat belt usage has already risen to 66 percent.

District police have relatively few complaints, but many attribute this to the fact that like most

This law will save lives of African Americans. But we also understand the concerns over police brutality. We will sit down with all those who have legitimate concerns."

-- Ricardo Marti
National Highway and Safety Administration Chief

According to a recent Department of Transportation survey, Blacks have the lowest seat belt usage of any ethnic group. This week the Clinton Administration announced a plan that would strengthen the seat belt laws in states with high minority populations.

Many Black law makers are not happy about the plan. They said the new laws will give the police the right to pull over any Black motorist will.

Rep. Juanita Millender-McDonald, D-Calif., said the law will increase the complaints by

National Highway and Safety Administration Chief Ricardo Marti said he understands the concern of the Black community.

"We understand where the Black lawmakers are coming from. This law will save the lives of African Americans," Marti said. "But we also understand the concerns over police brutality. We will sit down with all those who have legitimate concerns."

Many states already have tough seat belt laws including Washington, D.C.

In 1997 the District of Columbia had one of the

District residents, the police are mostly made up of African Americans.

"I'm not saying that police brutality can't be committed by a Black officer, but there is a difference when Black citizens deal with a mostly White police department, compared to dealing with one that is made up of people who look like them," one D.C. official said.

The federal law which is expected to save 10,000 lives a year will go into effect sometime before December.

On The Hill With Jonathan

The African Trade Bill And Untypical Congressional Black Caucus

Congress passed a very interesting bill by an even more interesting divide among members of the Congressional Black Caucus. It also proved how politicians can be weird bed fellows.

The African Growth and Opportunity Act (H.R. 1432) promotes growth for African trade coming into this country by lowering the 15 to 25 percent import taxes placed on textiles. H.R. 1432 would also establish more business relationships between African businesses and American businesses, mostly Forbes 500 companies.

Other sections of the bill include lowering the rate of piracy of intellectual property such as software and music, and eliminate corruption and minimize government market intervention.

What was even more rare was that many liberal members of Congress and many conservatives agreed or disagreed together. It is not often that very liberal Rep. Charlie Rangel, D-N.Y., and very conservative Rep. Phil Crane, R-Ill., would come together for legislation as well as former Black Panther Rep. Bobby Rush, D-Ill., and National Rifle Association supporter Rep. Jerry Solomon, R-N.Y., agree against a bill.

According to many organizations that promote economic progress for Africa, including TransAfrica, the bill would have many hidden requirements.

Randall Robinson, president of TransAfrica argued that it would "require that each sub-Saharan African country be certified annually by the president to have met certain conditions or risk termination of trade preferences.

These countries must also join the World Trade Organization, which many African countries have rejected as damaging to their interests, and comply with harsh International Monetary Fund terms."

About one-third of the CBC members were opposed to this measure and they were concerned that their individual Districts may be affected as well.

U.S. Representatives, such as Jesse Jackson Jr., D-Ill., and Sanford Bishop, D-Ga., were fearful of jobs in America being lost, especially African Americans'. About 40 percent of the nation's textile workers are minorities, with the largest number representing Black Americans.

Jackson compared the bill to the African slave trade in a letter sent to the legislation's author Crane. The letter said: "...the earliest African trade policy...involved African kings and potentates selling other exploits as slaves by White masters in the new territory...We in Congress need not repeat the same trade policy in any 'form' or version in 1998....African Americans have not benefited substantially from trade with Europe, Latin America, or Asia. And we don't need a deal between undemocratic and permanently entrenched kings and presidents-for-life in Africa and multi-national businesses in the United States that prefer not to hire, promote or value African American employees at home."

Several unions, textile merchants and cotton farmers opposed this bill.

Rangel, a member of the CBC and co-sponsor to the legislation, said the "unions, though generally they are right, on this issue they're wrong." Because African textiles account for less than 1 percent of America's imports, the bill's impact on U.S. workers would be very little, according to Rangel and other supporters of the bill.

In the end, CBC members who liked the idea of an America-Africa trade bill, wanted to make some changes to the original legislation.

Many of the amendments offered, unfortunately, did not pass. The bill might not even be up for vote in the Senate this year, according to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss.

But this situation proved how politicians, even CBC members, make interesting fellows.

Jonathan L. Wharton is the Hilltop's political columnist

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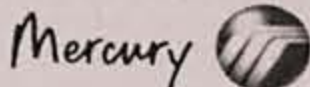
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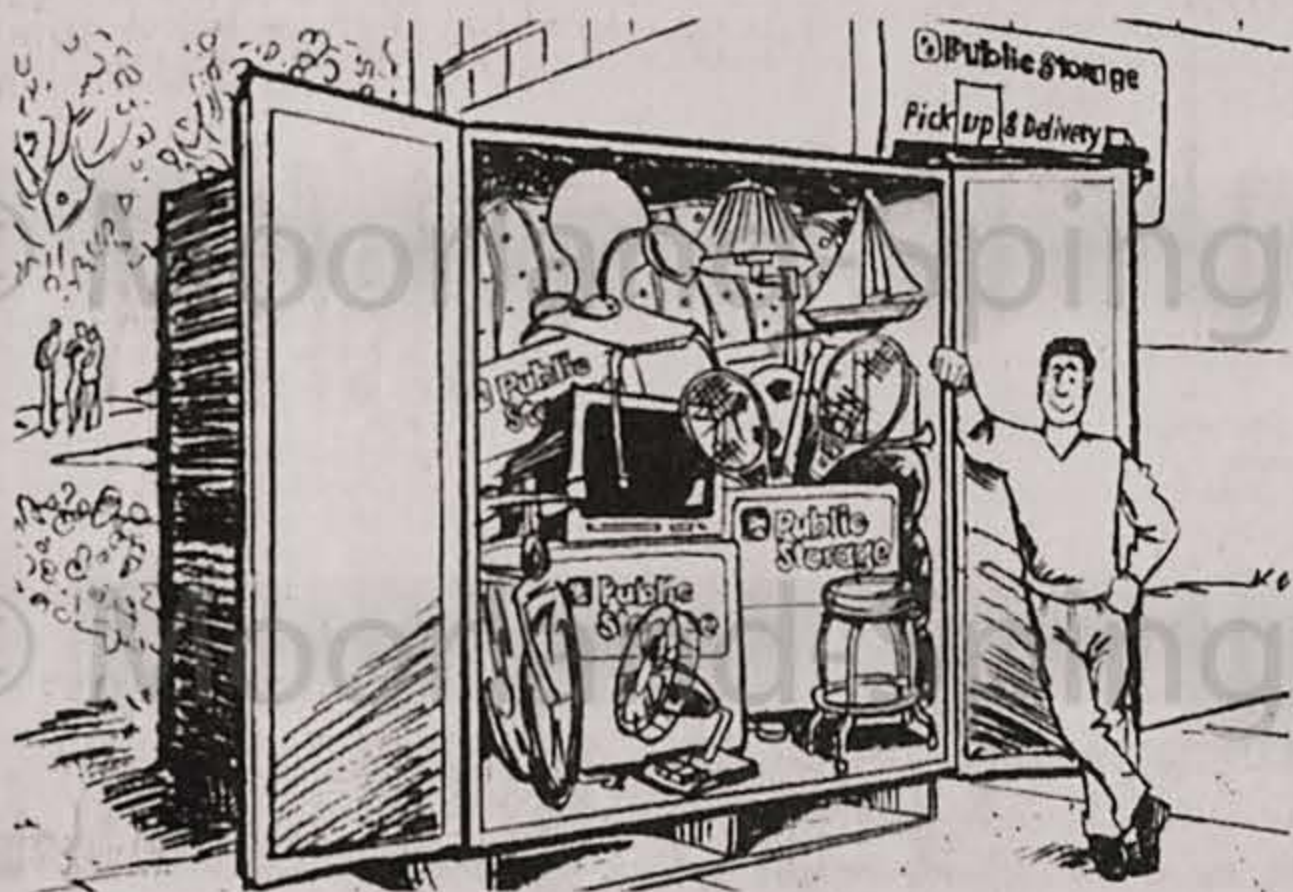
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North, South Korea Take First Step Toward Diplomatic Relations

By NEYSTAL HOWARD
Hilltop Staff Writer

A month after giving \$50,000 to famine-stricken North Korea, South Korean President Kim Dae-jung met last week with leaders from the south to discuss future relations between the countries.

"I think it is a positive move on the part of both countries, and hopefully they can close the gap on long-standing issues," said James Matlack, director of the American Friends Service Committee, an organization that advocates humanitarian efforts abroad.

The meetings began April 11 in Beijing. South Korea leaders said they will not try to force

North Korea into a re-unification process like Germany.

One of the agreements already reached is that the South will allow families separated during the Korean War to reunite.

"Not only are the families going to be united, but supposedly they will be able to receive and send mail and messages and travel freely between the two countries for visits," said Mariam Young, director of the Asia Pacific Center for Justice, a non-profit organization that advocates human rights in Asia.

Korea became two countries in 1953 at the end of the Korean War. It has since been divided by a demilitarized zone with heavy security.

North Korea is now calling for the South Korean National Security Law and Spy Agency, the organiza-

tion responsible for the country's national security, to be abolished, ending what they say has been ongoing propaganda against the north.

Economic problems have long plagued both countries, in particular North Korea.

"There are people starving to death in North Korea, people are eating bark and leaves," said Pharis Harvey, director of the International Labor Rights Fund, which advocates labor rights abroad.

North Korea's food production is unable to feed the population because severe droughts crippled last year's agricultural output.

"North Korea did not want to appear before the world as a beggar, and almost waited until it was too late to ask for help," said Marc Cohen, director of the Central

Committee of the Worker's Party.

The Red Cross and other relief organizations and individual countries, including South Korea, have sent aid to strife-torn North Korea.

"South Korea has its own problems, but it is very of them to help in the face of adversity," Matlack said. A peace treaty drawn up at the end of the Korean War was never signed by either country, but this will be the first time they have attempted to resolve their differences since the death of North Korean leader Kim Il-sung in 1994.

"An agreement between North and South Korea would be best and must be carried out as soon as possible," Harvey said.

Top South African Official Resigns After Reporting False Coup

By NAOMI PORTERFIELD
Hilltop Staff Writer

South African Chief of Defense, George Meiring, last week submitted his resignation after filing a false report warning President Nelson Mandela of a threat by opponents to destabilize the country and overthrow him.

Meiring and the South African military intelligence compiled the report alleging that some of Mandela's most trusted colleagues and former members of his guerrilla army were planning a coup.

The coup report named several prominent left-wing members of Mandela's ruling African National Congress, as well as some of his top military officers. Among those listed were former ANC leader Bantu Holomisa and Robert McBride, a senior foreign affairs official.

Ayo Langley, visiting scholar in the Department of African Studies, said the report was mostly contrived by McBride.

A controversial figure, McBride has been accused of hijacking vehicles and carrying arms belonging to the

government of Mozambique. When he was arrested in Durban, Mozambique, McBride said he was acting on behalf of the South African government.

Langley said the report may have been a result of the "bad-blood" that exists between Meiring and McBride. "The report seemed to be an even more potentially divisive way to destabilize the ANC government," said Robert Edgar, a professor in the Department of Afro American Studies.

A commission appointed by Mandela to investigate the report, said it lacked substance. Government officials have called it "some fantastic piece of fiction."

"Most of the claims on the report were exaggerated," Langley said.

He called the report a "mis-information attempt" and an effort to weaken the ANC's chances in the upcoming elections.

But Langley said it would not have a significant affect on Mandela's government.

"The ANC government's sophisticated economic structure makes it difficult [for it to lose] command,"

Meiring is expected to leave office by the end of May.

African Nations Wary Of Economic Development Act

By STEPHANIE BURTON
Hilltop Staff Writer

Congress has agreed to provide assistance for African countries that have been committed to alleviating poverty, recognizing the importance of women to economic development, and to countries seeking growth within the private sector.

In the African Growth and Opportunity Act, which will authorize a new trade policy for Africa, Congress will establish a firm United States-Africa trade and investment policy, while focusing on women-owned businesses in the private sector.

President Clinton called the act "the beginning of a new African Renaissance."

Sub-Saharan countries are eligible to receive benefits outlined in the act if their governments do not violate international human-rights laws and

are in compliance with establishing a market-based economy.

These countries are required to give reports in order to qualify.

But South African President Nelson Mandela has said repeatedly that he opposes the act because it restricts South Africa from trading with other countries.

Mandela said he welcomes U.S. aid, but resists any attempt to impose conditions on freedom of trade.

The United States, however, has maintained that the act does not tell Africa what countries to trade with. U.S. Special Envoy to Africa, Jesse Jackson, said the United States is not trying to jeopardize Africa's sovereignty.

Michael Frazier, professor in the Department of Political Science, said the act is a show-piece for the U.S. government.

"The [Act] is a way to placate Black politicians who are

pushing for greater economic transitions through Africa," Frazier said. "It is like a symbolic gesture from the Clinton administration saying to African leaders 'you are important.'"

One clause of the act that has gotten a lot of attention is the provision of duty-free treatment to sub-Saharan countries until the year 2008.

"This means that Africa can export goods to the U.S. without tariff boundaries," said Greg Simpkins, a staff member of the Senate African sub-committee. "This benefits African countries by giving them an advantage so they can develop economically."

Melita Manser, sophomore actuarial science major from Botswana, is pleased with the provisions of the act.

"I only hope Congress remains true," she said. "This will speed up the development and improve the economy, especially in Botswana."

Seizure-inducing Japanese Cartoon Returns To Network Lineup

By ERIKA WORTHAM
Hilltop Staff Writer

The top rated and controversial Japanese cartoon, "Pocket Monsters," will be back on a Japanese television network just three months after more than 700 school-age children were hospitalized after watching the show.

Most of the children had seizure-like reactions about 20 minutes into the show when a scene depicting a "vaccine bomb," set off

to destroy a computer virus, exploded.

It was followed by five seconds of flashing red lights from the eyes of a rat-like creature that is the show's most popular character.

Some children had similar reactions while watching excerpts from the scene in TV news reports.

Officials reported photosensitive epilepsy, a type of seizure induced by flashing lights, caused the reactions.

Anna Purni Jayam-Trouth, chairman of the Department of Neurology at Howard

University, said only a small percentage of people are sensitive to the lights. Jayam-Trouth said some people may be more susceptible than others.

"It is possible that there may be an ethnic or gene factor involved," she said.

As for chances the show could cause seizures if shown to American movie viewers, Jayam-Trouth is not worried.

But Sherri-Ann Shaw, a senior accounting major, would like to see "Pocket Monsters" stay in Japan.

"If it is detrimental to the kids it should

be kept away from them, if not all the kids, the ones in America," Shaw said. "We cannot regulate what goes on in Japan, but we can regulate what goes on here."

The cartoon was suspended from the air last year when outraged parents complained.

The show is Japan's most highly rated program with its 6:30 p.m. time slot.

"Can you imagine if 1,000 children fell out by 'Barney,' mesmerized by the purple suit? It would be outrageous," said Lyneda Shorter, a senior legal communications

major.

But some students said American television networks should exercise caution before carrying shows such as "Pocket Monsters."

"It is sort of like a nuclear war. If they send the cartoon over here they could hurt people in the U.S., and Japan may then have the opportunity to put our government at risk," said Lynn Horton, a sophomore acting major.

MEET TWO TRAVELERS WHO JUST HAD A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP

HE STAYED AT A HOSTEL

and with the money he saved on his accommodation, he had breakfast at a trendy café, toured the famous sights, saw a band at a local club and still had enough change left over to make a call home.



SHE STAYED AT A HOTEL

and had enough money left over for a cup of coffee.

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ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT NEWS BRIEF #21

17 APRIL 1998



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EDITORIAL

THE HILLTOP

"Make of me always a man [woman] who questions."

--Frantz Fanon

Freedom Of Speech

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution endows every citizen of this country with freedom of expression. Supposedly, citizens can say anything they want, except shout fire in a movie theater when there is no fire, make public threats against the president or make unfounded accusations against a person that smears their reputation.

So, if speech is not really free in the real world, could it possibly work at Howard University?

The Spring Black Arts Festival proved that freedom of speech is impossible here. Last Tuesday, "Showtime at HU" was Howard's own version of "Showtime at the Apollo," the ultimate forum for freedom of expression.

After a number of different performers expressed themselves using profanity, one of the members of the audience found the last straw in Sarah Hambrick's "I, Out of Hiding," a poem about a relationship gone bad.

The woman was so offended that she called Jane Rand, manager of Cramton, and had the show ended prematurely. Last Thursday, the fashion show also experienced some of the technical difficulties they claimed ended "Showtime at HU." The lights flickering on and off was not an act of God, it was an act of the administration.

When some scenes in the fashion show were found objectionable by the administration, they exercised their right to invalidate students' rights.

When a student comes to Howard, it should have been with the understanding that she is now an adult capable of deciding what does and does not offend her. Supposedly, parents were left at home. But evidently, the administration has taken up the slack.

On one side, students demand to be given their rights to freely express themselves and freely listen to anyone else's expressions as the adults they legally are. On the other side is the administration with a duty to protect the reputation of the institution, and make sure it is seen in the best possible light. Since freedom of speech is not practiced in the outside world, it is unrealistic to believe it would be practiced at Howard.

With this in mind, it is the University's duty to at least censor responsibly. The administration should have been aware of the content of the show before it went on.

Why was it necessary for a woman in the audience to inform Jane Rand that there was profanity in the show? How could she not have known before?

She is able to take the time to stop the show, but she was unable to go and see the show before the cancellation was necessary. If someone had seen the show prior to its debut, they would have been able to either prevent the offensive actions from being performed or issue a warning about the content of the show.

A disclaimer would have given the woman in the audience the information that this show would have profane language.

If students cannot expect freedom of speech, they should at least know the limits on their speech. The University has guidelines for such activities as Homecoming and the Spring Black Arts Festival, but the guidelines are unclear.

The chairperson of Homecoming and the Spring Black Arts Festival should have a specific list of any elements the administration has deemed inappropriate. This list should not simply contain

a decision that there be no curse words, rather provide the specific words, or easily identifiable rules of censorship.

The chairperson should know that any words that would not be allowed on television will not be allowed in the program. This list would not just have a vague admonishment about improper conduct, but specifically, no frontal nudity, or no simulation of oral sex.

Without a decisive layout of what is suitable and what is unsuitable, the University has no grounds to pull the plug as it did on "Showtime at HU." How can it punish people who didn't even know their crime?

Now, the sponsors of "Showtime at HU" are facing debt at the prospect of refunding the money of their unsatisfied customers. Not only did the administration offend the rights of students, they also offended the financial sensibilities of student organizations.

Although freedom of speech is written in the constitution as a right, actually it is a privilege. Evidently, we do not have that privilege at Howard, but it is our duty to fight to make it our right.

The pimps and hoes scene in the fashion show was offensive, but if someone in the audience was offended, he had the freedom to not look or leave. Some ideas are offensive and it is difficult to allow them to be expressed, but when the expression, however demeaning or disturbing, is not permitted, the expression of every person is destroyed.

OUR VIEW:
The administration violated student's freedom of expression.

Proposition 209

After the abolishment of affirmative action with Proposition 209 in California and Proposition 200 in Washington state, fewer Black doctors will be produced by the medical schools in those states.

Opponents of affirmative action assured the nation that the racism, which inspired the inception of such a government program, no longer existed. They were confident that the acceptance of minority applicants would not be diminished as long as they were qualified. Much to their embarrassment or more likely, their secret joy, fewer minority applicants have been accepted despite their qualifications. Belief that all applicants would be trying out on a level playing field was unfounded and known to be false by all Black people conscious of institutional racism.

The survey by the Association of American Medical Colleges, "Questions and Answers on Affirmative Action In Medical Education" proves that the nation is unable to judge people on the content of their character.

Despite minority students' ability to survive the stringent standards of medical school comparable to the rates of White people, legislation like propositions 209 and 200 deny minorities even the opportunity to work toward their future goals.

Even with such statistics, White schools have shown racism that is inherent in their administrations. Those who handle admissions at these medical schools are looking at the numbers from the MCAT and seeing lower scores for minorities, a reason that is sufficient for their denial even with strong grade point averages.

When minorities were allowed to be accepted into medical schools with lower scores, they were still able to excel.

Affirmative action was never supposed to provide a medical degree to people without ability or intelligence, rather it was to provide a chance for those who had long

been denied proper access to the predominantly White institutions they wanted to attend.

Without affirmative action, the number of students accepted to medical school would have gone down 80 percent. Racism has existed far too long and grown far too strong for people to now suddenly depend on the kindness of strangers.

Government regulations were the only way, so far, that minorities could find the same opportunities open to them as were open to the majority applicants. A few years of affirmative action is ineffective and a slap in the face in comparison to hundreds of years of slavery, segregation and racism.

Progress has not truly reached the poorest minorities who need it most, instead affirmative action has found its way only to helping the White women.

More permanent solutions should be found, but unless those critics can find a viable solution to insure equal access to medical schools and the like, for all people there is no way to continue without affirmative action.

To improve the situation of Black people, affirmative action is needed not only for the present generations, but future generations. When Black children are able to see an abundance of Black doctors surrounding them, they are more apt to see a medical degree as a plausible goal.

Without such role models encouraging them to educate themselves and seize all possible opportunities, affirmative action could become even more necessary, to bring Black people up from an even more desperate situation.

A positive aspect can be seen in the denial of admission to minority medical students at White schools. These students are able to return to the Black medical schools, Howard and Meharry, but they should still have the choice to attend the school of their choice and believe that they have an equal chance of being admitted.

OUR VIEW:
Medical schools have proven that without affirmative action, they do not admit minorities.



OUR MISSION

As one of the oldest student institutions at Howard University, *The Hilltop* seeks to embody the University's motto of Truth and Service. Since 1924, *The Hilltop* has served as the watchdog of the University, facilitating free access to information and stimulating critical thought and intellectual debate. Through our news coverage and lead opinion-making, we hope to set a standard in collegiate newspapers and journalism. We champion the student voice within Universities across this nation and around the world. As a member of the Black press, it is our duty to seek out news that affects the daily lives and political being of African Americans so that we may determine our course. Without knowledge of ourselves, we are like a tree without roots.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS AND COMMENTS

THE HILLTOP encourages you to share your views, opinions and ideas. We publish only material addressed to us, and routinely edit letters for space and style. Letters as well as commentaries must be typed signed with full addresses and telephone numbers.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are solely the views of the Editorial Board, and do not reflect the opinions of Howard University, its administration, *THE HILLTOP* Board or the students.

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SLANT

MICHAEL A. FLEMING

The Pilgrimage To Mecca

At Howard, we pride ourselves on being citizens of the "Mecca" of Black academia. From Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, Canada and the Americas, people of African descent travel great distances to receive the education that only Howard has to offer.

However, I want to draw our attention to the city with which we often claim similitude, one that continues to have a significant impact on billions of people worldwide.

Last week, millions of Muslims around the world migrated to the holy city of Mecca, declaring the oneness of God, seeking forgiveness of sins and wanting Allah's pleasure. Within the holy precincts, devotees remove all garments and problems of distinction and wear a simple white cloth to acknowledge the equality of all mankind in the sight of Allah as they perform their religious duties.

This act is the Hajj, the annual pilgrimage which has been performed by a countless number of Muslims worldwide for over 14 centuries. The Hajj constitutes the fifth pillar of Islamic faith and every Muslim, male or female, must make this arduous journey at least once in their lifetime if it is within their means.

The Hajj consists of various rituals, rich with meaning and significance, commemorating the faith and sacrifice of Abraham. Abraham is often referred to as the father of the three monotheistic faiths, Islam, Christianity, and Judaism, for his readiness to sacrifice his only son and abandon his family in the desert in submission to the will of God. The faith of Abraham was tested, but God rewarded him abundantly with promises made through his sons.

Aside from the rituals practiced in the holy precincts during the nine-day celebration, the Hajj itself is only symbolic of the purpose of all mankind. The journey to Mecca is a happy, yet tearful event for many

families and friends as their loved ones leave to fulfill this important duty of faith.

Many pilgrims abandon a life of comfort to join other believers around the world and live in a perpetual state of worship.

For nine days, these devotees of Islam will actualize brotherhood and seek the forgiveness of all former sins. Many will return spiritually revived and imbued with a spiritual elixir to heal the ailments of their suffering communities.

Muslims are reminded that life is a journey and our final destination will be standing before Allah. A day will come when mankind will stand before their Lord with their deeds as the only distinction.

Often, we forget about an eternity where class, race and nationality are unimportant. The truly successful are those who strive for virtue through truth and patience. When such ideals are our objectives, mankind can actualize "peace on earth and goodwill towards men."

Many Hajjs of African heritage have been historic. Mansa Musa left his Mali empire with an entourage numbering thousands and returned with a religious fervor which eradicated ignorance, increased literacy, and established the foundation of the Islamic educational center of Timbuktu.

Malcolm X also acquired his Islamic identity from his pilgrimage and returned to the United States encouraging Blacks and Whites to accept Islam as a solution to bigotry. Unfortunately, his efforts were cut short by those who opposed such ideas. Nonetheless, the Hajj remains a powerful ritual, uniting billions of people worldwide and reinforcing the value of faith and sacrifice to the Creator of all mankind.

The writer is a senior civil engineering major.

ARAH HAMBRICK

Refusing To Shut Up

I was the co-host for the Spring Black Arts Festival's "Showtime at HU" last Tuesday night. I would not like to apologize to all the performers who did not get a chance to make the stage.

It's a shame that no one will ever know how hard these gifted and talented people worked on their performances. However, in my defense, I assert that as an artist, I believe wholeheartedly in freedom of speech. I was under the assumption that Howard University did as well.

Although I have been assured that Tuesday's canceled show was not my fault, I still feel the need, unfortunately, to explain myself. I am sorry that the show got canceled, but I am not apologetic at all for my work. I am also not nearly as vulgar as I am being made out to be.

Ever since I got to Howard, I've noticed that this campus generally doesn't give respect to Fine Arts majors. My opinion has only been affirmed by this recent situation. I study the art of theater intently and I take it very seriously, so when this university expects me to censor my artistic expression it is an insult to me and to my area of concentration.

The poem that is causing all of this ridiculousness, "I, Out of Hiding," is not about "ghetto sh**" as the woman who booed me so venomously yelled. Those who heard (despite this woman's hurtful ranting and raving) know that it is about self-respect, integrity and faith in a higher power.

The five or so curse words are used to make a specific point. It is not vulgar and profane as my critics would have you believe. I am an artist. I express myself the only way I know possible, so if that expression requires me to swear a little it is my duty to do so.

No one shutdown the poetry cipher, last Monday night, and those of us who know contemporary poetry know that cursing is virtually given. It wasn't canceled, because artistic freedom is respected in that kind of forum.

Now, I ask you, why is it that poetic expression is only respected on certain nights of the week?

Therefore, in response to Jane Rand's supposed "lack of profanity understanding," I didn't even know there was an understanding about profanity. Neither did any of the performers. It's outrageous that I am, of all people, being made an example of.

So the question is, Howard University, are we going to allow ourselves to be gradually censored in this way? My answer is hell no!

I am 21, therefore, capable of monitoring my own behavior and language. We are all adults here—college educated adults at that.

Common sense says that if you don't want to hear something, don't listen to it. If that woman didn't appreciate the language in my piece, despite the message, she did not have to listen. Apparently, she forgot that this is a free country.

Thus, Cramton will not make me shut up. Tracy Neal and Rand will not make me shut up. You see that my conveniently anonymous boomer didn't make me shut up. So, how dare this University expect me to shut up?

They are choosing the wrong person to use as an example. It took just one person to shutdown "Showtime at HU" and concurrently snatch away my constitutional rights.

So, how's that for power of the people?

The writer is a junior theater arts major.



DREW ANDERSON

The Boo-Boo Heads

There's something I've been peeping for a minute, but I held back my conjecture because I thought (or perhaps inwardly hoped) that it was just random situations and not a growing pattern of what I call "niggativity" at my beloved HU. But, it seems the latter is holding true, and even if I'm wrong, bump it, I had to get this off my chest.

What is up with the infamous Howard audience?

When we aren't profoundly moved by a performer, or perhaps are profoundly moved in the wrong way, we dig deep into our collective cache of disrespect: booing, hissing, hooting, hollering, launching missiles and generally making a show when a show is what we supposedly paid to observe.

Case in point, the Spring Black Arts Poetry Show, which I was in.

Now, I must give love to a good amount of the audience who were on some positive vibes. And I even give an amount of love to those who straggled in, decided it wasn't their flavor, and politely gangster-limped back out of the door.

ELIM BETTON

To All My Conscious Colleagues Revisited

The Egyptological response by Ann Roth, professor of Egyptology, in the March 13th issue was well worth the wait. There is nothing like a good article full of self-righteous semantics and subtle insults to the intelligence.

It is not my intention to go back and forth in literary argument, rather, it is my intention to establish truth where it is lacking. We must tirelessly seek to do this in all aspects of our existence.

As Roth may attest, the main players in the archaeological world, as pertaining to Egypt (Kemet) during the past 200 years, were primarily Europeans. These various Egyptologists, with substantial financial backing, made considerable progress in their archaeological findings.

And, what a surprise! Here they were, strangers in a strange land, proclaiming themselves to be the possessors of the primary source evidence of Egyptological studies.

I wonder what they found? They didn't by chance come across remnants of the original inhabitants who strikingly resembled people that these Europeans were enslav-

ing and oppressing back home and around the world.

"How could this be?" they must have asked themselves. "These dark-skinned people have produced the most impeccably well-crafted artifacts and their architecture is simply a phenomenon! It is apparent that we'll have to make some modification, create our own theories as opposed to the obvious truth. If we must steal and conceal, let it be done. After all, we are the possessors of the primary source evidence."

And to this very day, the systematic tampering by Europeans of African historical facts (both tangible and written) continues to prevail.

Another point of concern is the term "afrocentric." To me it appears to be another euphemism to perpetuate confusion among the masses, primarily Blacks.

How can something such as ancient Kemetian history be studied from an afrocentric perspective when the origin, the essence, is African?

Why not just accept things for the way they are instead of tagging ancient Black history with extemporaneous distinctions of study, i.e. afrocentrism and eurocentrism.

Now, can we blame artists like Maxwell when they don't want to return to "the Mecca?"

Look, I'm not entreating anyone to make believe that they are digging on or feeling any performance. Maybe I'm a little biased because in the rhyme scene we learn an unspoken and unquestioned respect for the microphone and/or stage as well as who is on it, regardless of whether we agree with them.

But all I'm talking about is showing some sort of common courtesy or human respect to those who share their gifts with us. We often complain about Howard not being what we expected. Maybe part of that is due to the fact that we don't strive to represent what we expect.

In the end, when the curtain closes, all the tomatoes have been cleaned away and all the nasty observations have been spat out, our college experience is like anything else—what we make it.

The writer is a junior history major.



RECLAMATION!

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."
-Matthew 11:12

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HU Newsletter Self-Study

Volume 1, No. 2

April 1998

President Swygert Addresses Self-Study Task Force; Stresses Importance of Accurate Report

"[The University's Self-Study] is certainly one of the most important activities that most of us will be involved in during our tenure at Howard," said President H. Patrick Swygert at a recent meeting of the Self-Study Task Force.

Mr. Swygert, emphasizing the importance of the University's Self-Study, offered words of encouragement to the 81-member Task Force and stressed the significance of producing an accurate report. "This is not just another exercise," said Mr. Swygert. "Your findings in a printed report will be known—and read." The Task Force will be conducting the Self-Study for the University's 1999 reaccreditation review by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Mr. Swygert, who also serves as a voting member of the Middle States Association and has recently chaired the site visitation team at two universities during their reaccreditation reviews, is urging the Task Force to "...make an honest assessment of the state of the University."

The University's Self-Study will culminate in April 1999 with an on-site visit from the Middle States' reaccreditation and review team.

University to Participate in Campus-Wide Survey

Students, faculty, staff and administrators will contribute to the Self-Study project by participating in a campus-wide survey. The survey will allow the Howard community to evaluate the University's performance in various areas such as academic curriculum, student life and campus policies and procedures.

The results of all surveys will be used in preparing the University's Self-Study report due in spring 1999.

Self-Study Task Force Designates Team Leads

The Self-Study Task Force for the University's reaccreditation review has been divided into eight study teams representing faculty, staff and students. The teams and individuals responsible for the University's assessment are:

Organization, Administration, Governance and Planning

Homer LaRue, Team Leader
Clarice Walker, Co-leader
O. Jackson Cole, Executive Committee Liaison

Students and Student Services

Jules Harrell, Team Leader
Nesta Bernard, Co-leader
Jonathan Hutto, Executive Committee Liaison

Academic Programs

Richard English, Team Leader
Mattie Tabron, Co-leader
Beatrice Adderley-Kelly, Executive Committee Liaison

Faculty

Allison Blakely, Team Leader
Georgia Dunston, Co-leader
Warner Lawson, Jr., Executive Committee Liaison

Physical Facilities

Demetrius Venable, Team Leader
Barbara Laurie, Co-leader
Henry Jackson, Executive Committee Liaison

Outcomes Assessment/Institutional Effectiveness

Constance Ellison, Team Leader
Orlando Taylor, Co-leader
Morris Hawkins, Jr., Executive Committee Liaison

Planning and Financial Resources

Phillip Fanara, Jr., Team Leader
Delores Carpenter, Co-leader
Alfred Fisher, Executive Committee Liaison

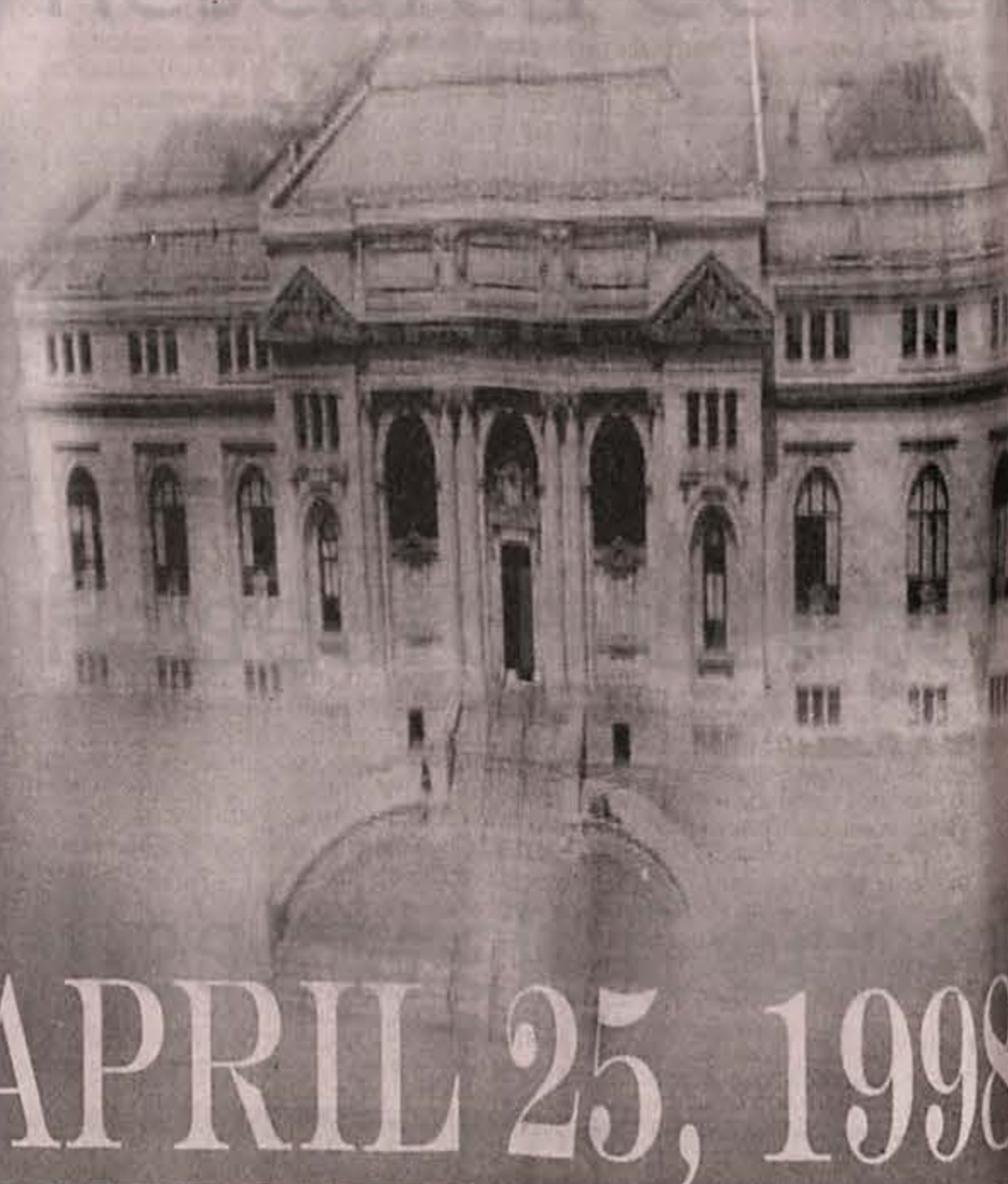
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Michael Jones, Executive Committee Liaison

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THE BAYOU COULDN'T HOLD US
...BUT CARNEGIE CAN

The Biggest Party of the Year



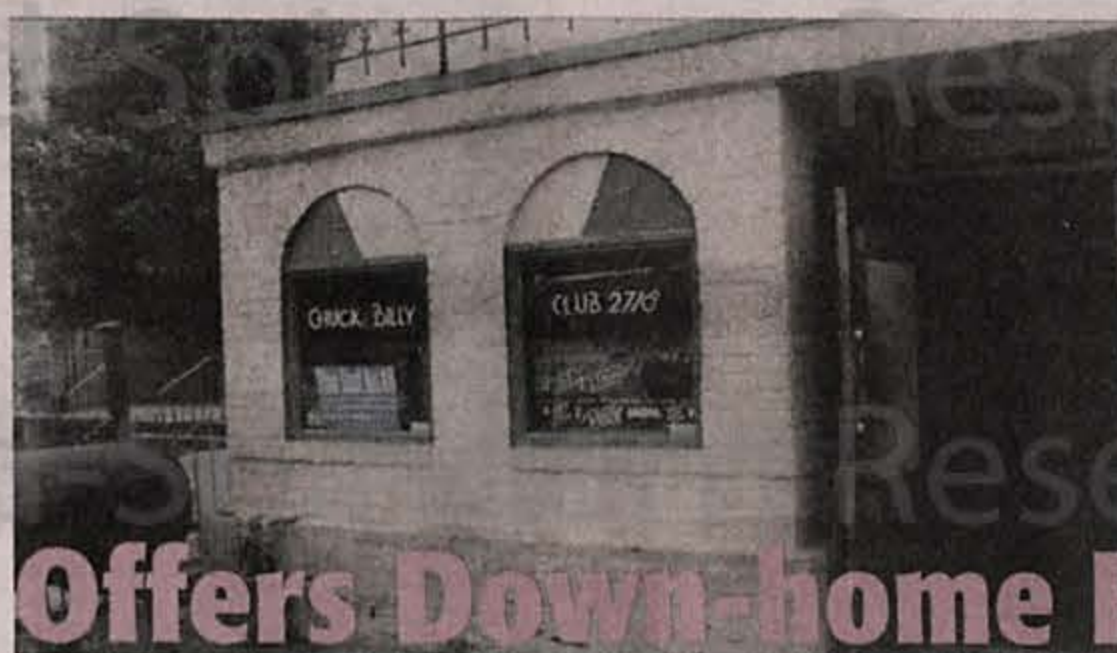
APRIL 25, 1998

Section

B

FREESTYLE

Chuck & Billy's



Happy Hour

Bar Offers Down-home Flavor

by NATALIE HOPKINSON
and NATALIE Y. MOORE
Hilltop Staff Writers

Chuck & Billy's has the ugliest women in town," declares 57-year-old Paul H. Holand. "Good food, but ugly women." The insurance salesman, while thankfully keeping our glasses of rum and coke filled, sounds like a grandfather grousing about a beamed up past. He rattles off names like the H. Bone and Billy Simps, all bars that have come and gone. Folks there knew the point of happy hour: saving a pocket full of phone numbers and being drunk and in bed by 10 p.m. But those places are gone, he laments. Surly women or not, Chuck & Billy's is one of the last old-style watering holes to hold on.

Nestled in between a video store and a brand new Burger King on 2718 Georgia Ave., the legendary Chuck & Billy's is the master of happy hour protocol. In the early 1990s, Chuck & Billy's was the place for Howard students to go on Friday's after class for drinks. "It's dope because you get to be around older people in the community. The atmosphere is intimate. It's a historic spot by Howard," said Will Willingham, a Howard University urban development major. Like many students, Chuck & Billy's was one of the first bars Willingham visited upon arriving at Howard. But the HU crowd soon faded, especially after liquor commissions started snooping around. Then the fancy, no-nimberland joints in D.C. drew larger crowds,

Places like Republic Gardens and D.C. Live are more familiar to Howard students running the happy hour circuit for which D.C. is famous.

Republic Gardens features cheap drinks and men volunteering their resumes to women perched on barstools.

Meanwhile, D.C. Live attempts to attract the pretentious, nouveau-bourgeois crowd with expensive discount drinks and a mediocre buffet. Many Howard post-'95 entrants have never heard of Chuck & Billy's. And probably for good reason. Chuck & Billy's patrons look more like the aunties and uncles we see at family reunions, weddings and cook outs than our friends from speech class.

This is a place you'll find Ph.D.s and addicts, Howard administrators and jazz musicians jiggling across the grimy parquet dance floor. Where aging alcoholics flirt with underage college students and a federal prosecutor waits his turn behind a panhandler to feed the jukebox.

"And then you have the young folks like me," called out Jean Ricks, 62.

"You're young at heart -- but not in age," belated Jimmy Walker, a 65-year-old retired hairstylist to snickers from his buddies.

"Recycled teen-agers," she mumbled under her breath.

We move in closer to learn Walker doesn't have a clue. With smooth, chocolate skin and only a slight trace of lines around her eyes, Ricks has cheated time by at least 20 years.

"We look good, huh? Chuck must serve some good liquor," she said with a laugh. A retired social worker from Boston, Ricks is one of the few female regulars at Chuck & Billy's. It is just one stop on a 13-bar circuit

she spends her retirement frequenting.

As she sips on White Zinfandel, Ricks tries to recruit us to help her create her newest brainchild, "Barbiz," a weekly newsletter devoted to telling old folks where to party.

"I may be old, but I'm still a bar person," she said.

She used to tell her children and her eight-year-old granddaughter that she was going to work everyday at 4 p.m., but they soon caught on to her real destination. Now her granddaughter always says, "I sure would like to meet those people, Chuck & Billy's."

If she were old enough to come here, it wouldn't be hard to find Chuck. He can usually be seen wandering around the establishment he owns with his old friend Billy Banks, with a half-filled drink in his hand and baseball cap on his head.

When he takes a break from cooking, he's usually greeting the women walking through



Photos by Melvin Mooring
Charles "Chuck" Gary, co-owner of
Chuck & Billy's

the door with a "Hi darlin'."

Charles "Chuck" Gary, 63, came to the District from Memphis 30 years ago. For years he owned a bar on 14th Street before relocating on Georgia Avenue in 1990. Chuck calls the place a sports bar and learned the business from his uncle who owned a bar on the South Side of Chicago.

On colder days, Chuck throws down with grease-popping fried catfish, chicken wings and salmon cakes. The best treat is when the weather warms; Chuck slaps poultry and pork on the grill out front. He credits the bar's success to the variety of people who stroll through the doors.

"You can talk to a musician, a professor or a bum," Chuck said. "It's economically feasible and spiritually feasible."

Billy can usually be seen serving advice and the strongest rum and cokes in town from behind the bar. A former professional fighter, Billy Banks, 77, has served Howard students since the early 1960s when he owned another bar up on 14th and T streets, the Kenyon Grill.

Party Over Here!



"I raised many a student there. That was the hangout," Billy said.

People like Kevin Moore knew Billy back in his Kenyon Grill days, but now patron the Georgia Avenue bar.

"I've known a lot of people in here for 20 to 25 years," Moore said. "Here we talk trash, we talk sports ... This is really it, this is like my 'Cheers.'"

After a few of the bartender Barbara's stiff drinks with minor chaser, everyone is waving cigarettes, dancing, buying another round and jamming to James Brown on the jukebox. Mrs. Jenkins, the waitress, makes her way to take more orders and lay bottles of hot sauce and ketchup. Each wobbly table is decorated with a different brand of beer bottle filled with plastic flowers.

A majority of the regulars probably hail one or two generations removed from the South. It's a constant reminder that D.C. is below the Mason-Dixon line. The jukebox has a little bit of recent R & B and hip hop, but most of records played are from Marvin Gaye, Al Green or the Whispers.

If you come to Chuck & Billy's a couple of times, the folks there get to know you and your drink of choice. On Tuesdays, Chuck's Cussin' Club -- the C.C. Club for short -- conducts its business. Anytime a member cusses in the presence of a young lady, he has to give up a dollar.

"You'd be surprised how much money you make," said James Phifer, a 74-year-old retired D.C. school teacher.

Phifer has been a regular at happy hours since the '68 riots. He goes to Chuck & Billy's everyday to meet his friends "to have a little fun."

Beyond the fines, club members raise cash for Howard University Hospital, the HU football team and needy babies. And they attend every Bison football game -- home and away. Here at Chuck & Billy's, the men have no qualms about a little innocent flirtation with women less than half of their age. And the feisty regulars love Howard women.

Holland may find the women at Chuck & Billy's homely, but that doesn't stop just about every woman from patting him on the shoulder and calling his name.

"Even the young girls come there to get guys like me. You know," he said, leaning in close enough to touch eyelashes. "Even 21-year-olds."

Chuck & Billy's men are nice -- but not fly. They'll eagerly buy ladies drinks without salivating for their numbers. The men have beer bellies, cowboy boots, 10-gallon hats or gray hair. Or on a good day all of the above. For six dollars anyone can get a good eat and drink on.

Ingrid Diarra, of Northwest, for the past eight years comes to Chuck's two to three times a week.

"It's a respectful establishment," Diarra said. "That's very important; it's comfortable. It's down to earth."



Remnants Of Motown Celebrate Its 40th Birthday

by TA-NEHISI COATES
Hilltop Staff Writer

If you were looking for a man to create a multimillion dollar business and the most economically successful independent Black label in the world, that man would not have been Berry Gordy Jr.

Gordy was a failed boxer and a failed entrepreneur who opened a record store only to watch it go bankrupt.

Until 1958, Gordy's adult life had been a series of misfiring gambles. That year, in a small Detroit suburb, Gordy founded Motown Records and became the most famous name in Black popular music.

For more than 20 years the label pumped out hits at a ferocious pace, living up to its moniker, "Hitsville U.S.A."

Until in recent years the company became a minuscule force in the music industry. A label that once stood among its ranks Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye and Michael Jackson brandishes no such star

power today.

The only act on Motown's roster that has recently experienced a great measure of success is Boyz II Men. Motown still exists in name, but not in spirit.

Yet the innovative spirit that Motown helped pioneer and the rugged soul of its '70s songs can still be heard in rap music.

In addition, rap artists routinely pilfer Motown's catalogue for samples. Furthermore, Motown, as a successful Black independent label, established the model for Black rap labels like Def Jam, Razor Sharp and No Limit.

Motown is one of the most significant stories in the history of Black popular music. But one wouldn't know this from the sounds on the radio.

The energy that drove Motown's house band and the creative zeal that artists like Wonder and Gaye brought to Black music no longer pulses through across the radio waves. In his book "The Death of Rhythm and Blues," Nelson George argues that the death of independent record labels, like Motown, also

led to a death of creativity in Black music.

Gordy was a pioneer because he was a Black man who owned his own record label during and after the days of segregation. This is different from Black label heads today, such as Sean "Puffy" Combs whose Bad Boy label must answer to Arista.

Gordy was his own distributor and consequently answered to only himself. But Gordy was no Black nationalist. In fact a pillar of Motown's success was its ability to market its product to Whites.

Cultural and political critic Brian Gilmore summarizes Gordy's aims rather bluntly, "He was trying to sell Black music to White people."

Indeed, no record label before Motown had been able to so successfully take Black music and package it to be sold for Whites. As the one-time owner of a small record label, Mark Roberts understands the importance of Motown.

"What Motown was able to do was put Black music into the mainstream," Roberts said. "Gordy was able to make Black music, as he put

it, the sound of young America."

Indeed crossover was Motown's primary goal and Gordy understood that this meant more than simply putting Black voices on a record. The Motown image was cleverly calculated.

Most of Gordy's acts came from poor families and had not been experienced to the international exposure that Motown would bring. Gordy hired charm school teachers to teach Motown acts "proper" speech and manners.

It was said that even the Motown sound, with its strong prominent tambourines and drum kicks, was tailored to appeal to Whites. In an interview, soul pioneer Isaac Hayes said as much.

"Now it was the standard joke, that Whites could not clap on a backbeat," Hayes said. "What Motown did was very smart. They beat the kids over the head with it."

But Gordy's brand of crossover was nothing like the crossover that occurs today in Black music because as smooth and as manufactured as Motown's music was it remained innovative.

"It's an oversimplification to say that Motown was simply commercial because much of the '70s music was funky," Roberts said.

Motown is best known for '60s ballads like Smokey Robinson and the Miracles "My Girl," Diana Ross and The Supremes "Baby Love," or the Marvelettes "Mr. Postman."

However, during the '70s, Gordy loosened his formula and allowed his acts to record feistier songs.

Gaye's album "Let's Get It On," featured blatantly sexual songs like the title cut and "You Sure Love to Ball." Gaye also used Motown to address political matters on albums like "What's Going On?"

Wonder also broke loose from Motown's formulaic approach recording "Songs In The Key of Life" and "Innervisions," both of which contained a heavy dosage of political commentary.

By the late '70s Motown had gone from prim and sweet acts like Mary Wilson and early Gaye to the hardcore funk of acts like the Commodores and S and M symbolism of Rick James who would smoke dope during his performances.

But in the '80s Motown, like much of Black music, began to decline. Chief among Motown's problems was the departure of several of its most popular acts like Jackson, Ross and Lionel Richie who was the Commodores lead singer.

Also many of Motown's earlier acts went into decline. Suddenly the Temptations, The Four Tops and Martha Reeves were hitless. By the mid-'80s Motown was no longer a force in the music industry.

"It's not Motown anymore the Motown we're talking about is still in that little house in Detroit. The days of independence are gone or at least dying," Roberts said.

The business is now controlled by giant media conglomerates like Warner Brother, who put selling records before artistry.

While Gordy wanted to sell records he also had an obvious concern about the quality package. Thus Motown's legacy offers a peak at a world that no longer exists.

It was a world where artistry still mattered.

PULSE



By PHILIP HENERY

Hilltop Staff Writer

Longevity in the game that is the rap industry can be as elusive as trying to find a creative microbe of talent on the radio. But it has been done.

Behold, the combination of a Boston-born MC and a DJ who attended college in Texas. These two would meet and merge their respective hungers to form the creative genius that is GangStarr.

No, they have never went platinum, or gold—at least not in record sales. GangStarr is G.U.R.U. and DJ Premier. For those who do not know, become educated by the following: "Manifest," "DJ Premier In Deep Concentration," "Jazz Thing," "Just To Get A Rep," "Take It Personal," "Ex To The Next Girl," (and remix) "Mass Appeal," and now "You Know My Steez."

These are all songs from the vast library of GangStarr, and also an excellent mini-discography of one of the most respected careers in hip-hop history. GangStarr has released a fifth album, "Moment of Truth."

And, it is definitely the most timely of moments for a pure hip-hop album like this. "Moment of Truth" is exactly what the industry needed to remind itself of its slow creative death.

This album is very similar to previous GangStarr albums, however, there is more emphasis on certain messages: self-responsibility, introspection, loyalty, self-understanding and acceptance.

GangStarr is not out to "playa-hate" anyone, they just want to make tight hip hop. The album leads off with the near-classic "You Know My Steez," and follows up with the mental grit of "Robbin' Hood Theory," a monotone, yet commanding call from G.U.R.U. for us as a people to rightfully take what is rightfully ours in this world.

"Work" will have trucks bangin' from coast to coast with its explosive kicks and G.U.R.U.'s callused vocals from doing years of the song's namesake on the mic. "Royalty" is the perfect summer hit for GangStarr, and it better be with K-Ci and JoJo placed so well in the chorus.

But, one of the CD's shining stars is, without a doubt, "Above The Clouds" featuring Wu-Tang's truly underrated Inspectah Deck.

GangStarr: 'Moment of Truth' New Album Marks Returns For Rap Duo



Photo by Daniel Hastings

DJ Premier, left, and G.U.R.U., also known as GangStarr, make a comeback with new album.

He really shines on this piece, and I hope this song is an indicator of his and Premier working together in the future.

"The Militia" is a tight three-man cut with the surprisingly improved flow of Big Shug and Freddie Foxx's clever lyrics with a flow that sounds hungrier than ever.

The album's title cut was very well-thought out as well, as a lot of so-called "Generation Xers," young, Black men especially, should be able to relate to it very well.

"JFK to LAX" is about G.U.R.U.'s experience with the system when they caught him with a firearm that had him in a bit of controversy. The track is laid-back and full of attitude, just like G.U.R.U.'s, or any man's, mood would be when the system has you caught up in it.

The album does follow certain formulas that are GangStarr's trademark, like the somewhat flat "The Rep Gets Bigga." Other pieces like "What I'm Here 4" and "Next Time" really epitomize the GangStarr sound with sweet flows of piano notes and smooth old-style horns.

Notably absent from the LP are GangStarr Foundation members Group Home and Jeru the

Damaja who are replaced by newcomers like Crumbsnatcher, who is the only one with real potential, and G-Dap.

"Betrayal" is a duet with Scarface that comes off really well, despite the repetitiveness of the track. The only low point on the album is "The Mall," where the concept just dulls the music into oblivion.

All in all, "Moment Of Truth" is not a totally new sound from GangStarr, but it is what it is — a very dope hip-hop album. The music provided by "the DJ you respect" will grab you with its creative use of sounds and always-clever chorus scratching that reminds us all of how important the rapper and the DJ is to this hip-hop thing.

G.U.R.U. has not sounded this lyrically-focused since the duo's third LP "Daily Operation." This album should keep many heads satisfied, as this work is only one of many gems to be dropped this summer.

Hip hop, real, hip hop has returned, folks.

Hip-Hop Road Trip Takes Audience On A Fun 'Ride'

By JEFF LYLES

Hilltop Staff Writer

It seems a movie with the urban audience in mind cannot be made without half the cast comprised of some of the biggest names in hip hop.

And almost as predictable is that only half of these movies are even worth \$3.75. The latest movie to follow this hip hop meets Hollywood trend, "Ride," starring "New York Undercover's" Malik Yoba, "Damon's" Melisa De Sousa and a host of hip hoppers. Fortunately, Puff Daddy does not make an appearance in the film.

De Sousa is Leta Evans, a film school graduate interning with Blue Kyles ("Downtown" Julie Brown) hoping to make her big break in directing. Yoba plays Poppa, who accompanies the group at the request of Freddy B (played by Luke), his longtime friend, in the hopes that Freddy will finance his rites of passage program in Harlem.

No MASE sightings here either, thankfully. In addition to taking care of the kids, Poppa also has to look out for his younger brother, Geronimo (Onyx's Fredro Starr).

Kelly is pretty cheap and wants to cut all kinds of corners in backing the trip, so she has the group take a bus down to Miami. This isn't your ordinary Greyhound, though.

As soon as the group is all together, the movie turns into "where do I know that guy from?" The cast includes two-thirds of rap group Onyx, Snoop Doggy Dogg and The Lady of Rage.

Surprisingly, the hip-hop heads are actually quite convincing in their roles, especially Rage, which is actually a little scary once you see the movie. No comedy would be complete without its scene stealers, and "Ride" has quite a few of them.

It's not Joe Torry teaming with Casper (Reuben Cobia) as one half of Casper and Indigo, that's his little brother, Guy. The comedy genes don't fall too far in this clan. Now if only they could help the Wayans.

John Witherspoon (of "Friday" fame) and Cedric the Entertainer are the hilarious brothers, Rosco and Bo, (makes you wonder if writer Millicent Shelton was a fan of the "Dukes of Hazard?") who drive the group to Miami. These two make the "Ride" enjoyable since about 65 percent of the really funny jokes are from them. It's a safe assumption that when they're on screen, you'll be laughing.

Dartanian Edwards is another huge reason for the laughs as Rage's partner, Herb, who's just a little annoyed about having to follow Geronimo to Miami after he makes off with his and Rage's stolen loot.

East coast residents should listen up. Throughout the trip, some of the DJs from your local radio stations check in and give shouts out to Freddy B and his crew.

"Ride" is a fun movie. It is not something you'll be racking your brain trying to figure out what the directors, the renowned Hudlin brothers, were going for in each particular scene. The brothers, went for the same mix that made "House Party" such a success for them. Well, the first one anyway. Most times it works, as most jokes are dead on. The first 15 minutes might make you a bit leery, but that's all it takes to get the ball, err...on moving.

It's not a really long movie, and you might even hear yourself saying "They're here already," because it's only so much left in the film.

Don't look for "Ride" to break any "Titanic" records even if it remained in the box office until 2003, but it's definitely one of the better movies geared toward the Black audience in quite a while.

Poets In 'Catch The Fire' Express Views On Today's Society

By CLARENCE JULIEN

Hilltop Staff Writer

A poet's mission can never be complete without forcing individuals to change their mentality, lifestyle and culture.

Through the eyes of great poet laureates Henry David Thoreau, Langston Hughes, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Paul Lawrence Dunbar and Maya Angelou, the spoken word has been instrumental in addressing society's problems from political, social, historical and economic perspectives.

Poets possess the ability to express such topics with creative dialect and subjective reality; therefore they adjust and develop their talents to reach the consciousness of the young and old.

In the 1990s, America has provided organized marches to focus

specifically on the Black community, introduced cultural awareness workshops on ethnicity and multiculturalism and enhanced reform programs for minorities in the workplace.

In addition, there is now secular education, an increase of women in the workplace and attention for the sexual abuse that women have faced domestically and professionally.

These issues have inspired established and novice poets to collaborate their works in a unique book which reflects African-American life in the 1990s.

The book titled "Catch the Fire" was edited by Derrick I.M. Gilbert (a.k.a. D-Knowledge), a Ph.D. graduate of UCLA, and motivational poet who has performed for audiences at Russell Simmons' "Def Comedy Jam," "Showtime at the Apollo," and a host of other

appearances.

"Fire" contains six chapters of poetry from poets, Nikki Giovanni, Amiri Baraka and Sonia Sanchez.

Also, entertainers Malcolm Jamal Warner, Eddie Griffin, author/cultural critic Kevin Powell and basketball player Shaquille O'Neal provide additional works.

The topics covered in this collaboration of prose range from Black empowerment, the inner lusts of men and women, physical and psychological abuse that women undergo in their relationships, strong family bonds within the Black community, and the direct relationships that music and poetry have in building cultural awareness within the Black community.

In "Fire," Gilbert guides readers toward the latent and obvious messages contained in poems.

The first chapter includes a poem titled "The Domino Theory (Or

Snoop Dogg Rules the World)" by Kenneth Carroll, where he uses poetry to conduct his personal commentary on the stereotypical label placed on rap music.

An excerpt from the poem reads: "Gangsta rappers killed Martin, Malcolm, and both Kennedy's, they imprisoned Mumia, Geronimo and Peliter, they started the riots, caused the delay in the congressional budget, made Hillary lie, spread the e-bola virus, elected the republicans, caused the Challenger explosion, and are responsible for your high electric bill."

Carroll's commentary used some of the most publicized gangsta rapper names (Ice T, Tupac, Easy-E, Spice 1) to emphasize why "Gangsta Rap" is considered more detrimental to American society than Watergate and the Nicaraguan arms scandal.

Carroll's poem uses reverse psy-

chology in pointing out the latent and obvious theories about rap music.

Another poem by Tony Medina examines Black enslavement to material items in a prose titled "Capitalism is a Brutal Mother*****." Medina is baffled how Blacks constantly keep falling victim to advertising, however he suggests a resolve for capitalism in an excerpt from the book:

"Dances, jackets, earrings, hairstyles, hairdos, Nike sneakers, Michael Jordan and Spike Lee flicks won't save us. But us and Science and Machine Guns and Heart and Love of Life and Love of People and Love For Peace and Love and Love and Love will save us."

Revolution will save us, Revolution will save us, Revolution will save us."

Medina causes the reader to feel

guilty for giving hard earned money away for simple pleasures, and the Blacks have to empower themselves to avoid tunnel vision.

Gilbert was captivated by the energy of fellow poet Sonia Sanchez, whose poem "Catch the Fire" inspired his anthology's name.

Sanchez' poem opens the final chapter, where she pleads with urban youth to prevent murder, and become survivors, teachers and follow in the footsteps of African American revolutionaries.

"Catch the Fire" is designed to awaken the Black subconscious and serves to substantiate that poetry is more than rhythmic stanzas. Poetry is an inner voice which burns within all of us and if it is addressed toward a target audience it could move people to fight injustice.

Old Makes New: Record Industry Claims Music Sampling Is Major Part Of Business

By ERIKA WORTHAM

Hilltop Staff Writer

The saying, "Out with the old, in with the new" doesn't seem to be reflected in today's world — at least within the music industry. Today's music industry is making tunes and much money with music hits from

Sampling is what it is called. A technique that has been around since the early days of breakdancing, deejaying and rapping nearly two decades ago.

Sampling, however, has recently gained much attention as it gains popularity among producers and artists of the 1990's.

"Sampling is a major part of the

it is going anywhere anytime soon."

Sampling is the technique music arrangers and producers use by taking a piece of music and manipulating it electronically.

According to radio producer Joel Bilheimer, the controversy arises when you start doing it to other artist's music. Publishing standards say that their may be eight bars of a song used without giving credit to the writer.

Any additional material used requires the payment of royalties to the original creator of the song.

With popular hip-hop artist Sean "Puffy" Combs using sampling as a trademark, the technique has garnered mixed reviews to its ethical and creative aspects.

"People make a big deal because of what Puffy is doing with music from the 80s, which I think is cool," said Keith Pearson, Island Records head of promotions for the Washington, D.C.-Baltimore area. "Using old music gives the 90s a way to bring back old hits and create new styles."

Pearson says producers use sampling because people love when they hear something that they know

Though this may give older artists the opportunity to make their own comebacks when their music is used, it is only fair that they are given proper attribution and monetary compensation for their original work.

"The legal ramifications do benefit the writers and old artists that are being sampled," Yorke said. "It also rekindles old careers and helps groups that would have otherwise been obscure in the Black community. If it were not for 'Mo' Money, Mo' Problems' we would not be hearing [Diana Ross' 'I'm Coming Out']."

David Dickinson, music director for WHUR agrees with the fact that more credit needs to be given to those who make the songs and listeners also need to be educated on the originality of today's version of older songs.

"If it [sampling] can be done creatively it is good, but it can be a crutch for those without creative talent," Dickinson said.

Though one may have to be careful in regards to legal ramifications when using other's music to create another sound, sampling seems to



Photo courtesy Jive

A Tribe Called Quest sampled The Isley Brothers' "Between the Sheets," in their song, "Bonita Applebum (The Remix)."

have a positive outlook on most music lovers. Bilheimer says one positive thing it has done is to introduce a younger generation to the music of an older generation.

"If someone takes Miles Davis or John Coltrane and loops those and turns someone onto them, it is fantastic," Bilheimer said. "But I do not think the modern producer has the right to claim to be the creator of the sound."

Bilheimer adds that if you take someone else's idea and give it

back in another form it is back-biting.

"But it is creative if you take it and do something new with it," he said. Rueben Monmouth, a junior music education major thinks otherwise.

"Sampling is good but it has gotten out of hand," Monmouth said. "It has created an industry of music with no creativity. Twenty years from now people will look back and say no music came from the 90s."



Photo courtesy Jive

Groups, such as the The Isley Brothers, have had their R&B recordings sampled by artists in the hip-hop genre.

the past, turning them into sounds that are new and very popular with music listeners.

industry," said Andy Yorke, WKYS Radio personality. "It has been around for ages and I do not think

WEEKEND BEAT

Arts, Entertainment, Nightlife In The District, Maryland, Virginia

Performances

The Kennedy Center offers free performances daily on its Millennium Stage at 6 p.m. The Howard University Jazz Ensemble performs April 21. Mark it on your calendar. No tickets are required. For a list of updated performances, call (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, directed by Judith Jamison, comes to the Kennedy Center's Opera House April 21-26 for only seven performances. Performing select works on different nights, the company will execute choreography from "Night Creature," "Revelations," "Suite 1918" and "Vespers" just to name a few. Tickets range from \$28 to \$50. For more information, call (202) 833-9800. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

Robbie Allen and James Ingram perform in the world premiere of *Brothers of the Knight* through April 26 at the Kennedy Center Terrace Theatre. This new version recounts the adventures of the young Knight brothers who, for reasons known only to themselves, leave torn up shoes by their bed every morning leaving a mystery to be solved. Ballet, sewing, chop, slide, tap and stepping will be incorporated into the show. Tickets for the public performances are \$10. For more information, call (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

Broadway hit musical "Ragtime" based on E.L. Doctorow's classic novel comes to Washington's National Theatre April 29. Reserve your tickets today by calling (202) 783-3372. The National Theatre is located at 1321 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

The American Ballet Theatre returns to the Kennedy Center through Sunday. They will perform Frederick Franklins' full-length "Coppelia" and mixed-repertory program featuring Agnes de Mille's "Fall River Legend," George Balanchine's "Theme and Variations" and Sir Frederick Ashton's "Les Patineurs." Tickets range from \$23.50 to \$58. For more information, call (202) 467-4600.

The Dance Theatre of Harlem will perform April 28 through May 3 at the Kennedy Center. For more information (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

"Pianos, 4 Hands," is playing at the Kennedy Center Eisenhower Theatre, through May 3. The play is a humorous odyssey of two musicians training who learn that practice doesn't always make perfect. For more information, call (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

The Merry Wives of Windsor, directed by Daniel Fish, runs through May 3 at The Shakespeare Theatre. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m. and weekend matinees at 1:30 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$17 to \$43. For more information or tickets call (202) 393-2700. The theater is located at 80 Seventh St., N.W.



Virgin Records recording star Janet Jackson's World Tour stops in the area on the July 9 at the MCI Center.

Monday Night at the National presents shows beginning at 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call (202) 783-3372. The National Theatre is located at 1321 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.

"Shear Madness," the record-breaking comedy whodunit that lets the audience play armchair detective is currently running at the Kennedy Center's Theater Lab. Sunday-Thursday shows are \$25 and Friday and Saturday shows are \$29. For more information, call (202) 467-4600. The Kennedy Center is located at 2600 F St., N.W.

The world premier of "Kudzu: A Southern Musical" is featured at Ford's Theatre. Scheduled to play an open-ended run into June, this zany, romantic comedy is set in the fictional town of Bypass, USA. Tuesday-Sunday evening shows play at 7:30 p.m., Thursday matinees play at 1 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$27 to \$40. Discounts are available for students. For more information, call (202) 347-4833. The Theatre is located at 511 10th St., N.W.

Exhibits

Washington: Symbol and City," is a permanent exhibit providing a great



Alvin Ailey's "Revelations" will be included in the company's seven performances in Washington, D.C. Ailey's dance theater will perform April 21-26 at the Kennedy Center Opera House.

orientation for visitors and residents of the nation's capital alike. Through maps, photographs and models, the exhibition traces more than 200 years of building in Washington, D.C. at the National Building Museum. For more information, call (202) 272-2448. The museum is located at 401 F St., N.W.

Celebrating the work of one of Africa's greatest traditional sculptors is "Olowe of Ise: A Yoruba Sculptor to Kings" which runs through September. A special gallery discussion, "First Look: Olowe of Ise: A Yoruba Sculptor to Kings" led by Roslyn Walker will occur on Sunday at 3 p.m. The National Museum of African Art exhibit features 35 of Olowe's major woodworks in high and uneven relief. For more information, call (202) 357-2000. The museum is located at 950 Independence Ave., S.W.

The world's largest Black history collection is currently located at the Library of Congress. "The African American Odyssey" exhibit spreading over three buildings, featuring five million books, films, photos and documents and covering more than two centuries of Black history is on view. For more information, call (202) 707-6400. The Library of Congress is located at First Street and Independence Avenue.

"George Segal, a Retrospective Sculptures, Paintings, Drawings," a four-decade retrospective honoring the American artist, is currently on view at the Smithsonian's Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. Continuing through May 17, the exhibit includes more than 20 landmark works of the Pop Art era, mixed media and more. For more information call (202) 357-2700. Admission is free. The Hirshhorn is located at Independence Ave. at Seventh Street S.W.

"Metalwork '98," a jewelry and metalwork exhibit will have its opening reception tomorrow at the Rockville Arts Place. A brown bag lunch and a slide show will be hosted by Don Stuart, a Canadian Goldsmith. The exhibit celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Washington Guild of Goldsmiths. Admission is free. For more information, call (202) 309-6900. The museum is located at 100 E. Middle Lane, in Rockville, Md.

The Museum of African American Art is currently exhibiting "A Spiral of History: A Carved Tusk from the Loango Coast, Congo" through April. The West Central African relic dates from the mid-to-late 1800s and is featured in the Point of View Gallery. For more information, call (202) 357-2627. Admission is free. The museum is located at 950 Independence Ave., S.W.

The Phillips Collection presents "Consuelo Kanaga: An American Photographer" Tuesdays through Sundays. This photography exhibit includes black and white stills and portraits. On Thursdays, the museum presents "Artful Evenings," a mix of art appreciation, socializing and musical entertainment. Admission is free. For more information, call (202) 387-2151. The Phillips Collection is located at 1600 21st St., N.W.

The National Building Museum exhibits "Planning Washington's Monumental Core: L'Enfant to Legacy" through June and "Civic Lessons: Recent New York Public Architecture" through May. For more information, call (202) 272-3603. Admission is free. The museum is located at 401 F St., N.W.

Book Signings /Poetry Ciphers

Tracey L. Brown, daughter and author of "A Seat at the Table," a personal, intimate portrait of the late Secretary of Commerce, Ron Brown, will be at Vertigo Tuesday at 6 p.m.

Derrick Bell, author of "Afrolantica Legacies," his new collection of allegorical stories and essays will sign books Thursday, April 23 at 6 p.m. For more information, call (202) 429-9272. Vertigo Books is located at 1337 Connecticut Ave., N.W.

The National Museum of Women in the Arts presents "Generations," its evening of Literary Series with receptions that follow. On May 1 at 7 p.m. Edwidge Danticat, Haitian author of "Breath, Eyes, Memory" and 1994 National Book Award Nominee, and Maryse Conde, playwright, author, Columbia University professor and literary critic will lead discussions on their Nationally recognized collections and achievements. Student tick-

ets are \$4, general admission \$8. To reserve a space, or for more information, call (202) 783-7370. The museum is located at 1250 New York Ave., N.W.

Poetry slam will take place at The Bar Nun, Monday from 7-10 p.m. Awards will range between \$50 and \$100. For more information, call (202) 667-6680. The Bar Nun is located at 1326 U St., N.W.

A book party for "Cheekie: A Child Out of the Desire," by Clarence Nero will be held on Saturday, April 25 from 6-8 p.m. Featuring live entertainment, and the announcement of the Bar Nun poetry slam winners will take place at Howard University's Gallery Lounge. The lounge is located on Howard's main campus in the Blackburn Center.

E. Ethelbert Miller will appear at the Arts Club of Washington April 22 at 7 p.m. as part of the continuing "Conversations with the Authors" series. Miller, the director of the African American Resource Center at Howard University, will read from his body of work including "First Light: Select-



Celebrating its 30th anniversary the Dance Theater of Harlem arrives at the Kennedy Center on April 28.

ed and New Poems," and his newest creation, "Whispers, Secrets, and Promises." For more information, call the Arts Club at (202) 331-7282, ext. 25. The Club is located at 2017 I St., N.W.

The students at Drew Hall present a poetry cipher tomorrow at 4:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. Drew Hall is located on Howard University's campus at 511 Gresham Ave., N.W.

Concerts

Janet Jackson world tour tickets are in their second week of sales. Jackson performs July 9 at the MCI Center kicking off her tour. To purchase tickets, call (202) 432-SEAT. Hurry, tickets are going fast.

SPORTS

Howard University Track Team Steals Show During Invitational

By DERRICK S. EDWARDS

Hilltop Staff Writer

The Bison track team was the host for a number of schools at the Howard Relays in Greene Stadium, last Saturday. And the Bison were everything but gracious hosts, taking away a plethora of medals at the meet.

Mona-Gail Baker, freshman standout member of the three-time MEAC champion HU women's basketball team, suited up for the first time in the shot put and discus throw. Baker won both events. She threw for 39.1 1/2 feet in the shot put, and she threw for 127 feet in the discus throw.

Abigale Harry won the women's high jump with a leap of 5-2. Harry also won the long jump with a leap of 19-7 3/4.

And if that wasn't enough Harry won a silver medal in the triple jump competition with a leap of 39-6 1/2. Harry placed just out of medal contention in the 100-meter hurdle with a time of 14 minutes, 46 seconds -- good enough for

fourth place.

The women's 400-meter relay team also won a gold, finishing with a time of 47.72 seconds.

Other Bison team members who made their presence felt on this day were senior team captain Tamyra Edwards. She placed second in the 1,500-meter run and qualified for the MEAC in the 800, the 1,500, and the 3,000.

Nykia Scott, Adrienne Trice and Karen Walters placed third, fourth and fifth in the 400-meter dash, respectively.

Ayanna Mackins, a freshman, came out on top in this meet. She won both the 400-meter dash, and 1,500-meter run.

"I haven't lost a race this season," Mackins said. "I set my personal goals very high, and even if I don't make them, whatever I do achieve is going to be real high."

For the men's team, Isaac Sugut continued to dominate long distance running. He won the 1,500-meter run clocking in at 3:57.81.

Two silver medals were given out to Kendrick Brooks and Jason Charter for their participation

in the 200 and 400-meter dashes. Brooks ran a time of 21:15 in the 200, while Charter finished second in the 400 with a time of 47.76 seconds.

Larry Blankenship also had a second place finish. He leaped for 22-9 3/4 in the long jump.

Other Howard athletes placed in the top 10 spots. Drew Anderson came in sixth in the 1,500 and Clifton Alexander came in seventh in the same event. Adrian Clark finished sixth in the 400 with a time of 49.08 seconds.

Before the outdoor season began, Howard broke a MEAC indoor record in the women's distance relay by 20 seconds, clocking in at 12:31.94. The record breaking group included Edwards, Trice and Mackins.

Sugut won the 5,000-meter run with a time of 15:40.31. And Sugut, Kiptalam Baiwyou, Charter and Mike Zipf, formed a relay team which placed second in the men's distance relay.

The women's team came in third in the MEAC championships and the men's team placed fifth.

3 Women's Basketball Team Members Sign WNBA Contracts

By MARCUS MATTHEWS

Hilltop Staff Writer

As the Women's National Basketball Association prepares to kick off its second season, three Bison standouts are gearing up for the transition from college to pro ball.

Howard University forward Alisha Hill, the MEAC women's player of the year, along with former players Amanda Hayes and Karen Wilkens, signed contracts with the women's professional league.

Hill, standing at six feet, averaged 20.8 points and 13.5 rebounds per game, last season, for the Bison. She led her team to its third consecutive MEAC tournament title and third straight NCAA tournament berth. Hill also became the all-time leading scorer in HU history this past season after shattering the 2,000 point mark.

Hayes was an undergraduate assistant coach for the HU women's team. She was also named the 1996-97 MEAC women's player of the year, averaging 15.0 points per game and 8.6 rebounds per game, while leading the Bison to its second consecutive MEAC tourna-

ment title.

Wilkens, played for Howard from 1988-91, and finished her career with the highest scoring average of any women's player at Howard -- 20.1 points per game.

All three women said they are looking forward to joining the WNBA. Lady Bison, Denique Graves, a first-round selection, Graves is the highest drafted Bison (male or female) in school history. She played for the Sacramento Monarchs.

Players must sign a contract before attending the WNBA's pre-draft camp that is held April 16-18 in Chicago. Signing a contract does not guarantee a spot on one of the league's 10 teams.

The 1998 WNBA draft will be held on April 29 via conference call with representatives from each team. The Utah Jazz and Sacramento Monarchs will have the first two picks, with the expanding Washington Mystics and Detroit Shock picking third and fourth, respectively.

The WNBA is the sister league of the NBA. Traditionally, basketball season runs from late fall to early spring. However, the season runs from mid-June through late August.

Women's Lacrosse Team Tells Of Obstacles Encountered In Becoming NCAA, Varsity Sport

By DERRICK S. EDWARDS

Hilltop Staff Writer

There are grunts, yells, screams and the indistinguishable smell of competition in the air at Greene Stadium. However, the team is unfamiliar because the teams that usually play at Greene -- Men's and Women's Soccer and Football -- are all out of season.

Now, there is a new team on the scene: Women's Lacrosse. And, it has been turning heads wherever it plays.

After being a club sport for two years, the women's lacrosse team became a varsity sport under the athletic department.

Monique Richards and Jennifer Brown, who is the team co-captain, founded the team in 1995.

The lacrosse team did not have a coach during its first season. Yasmine Abdul-Mani, a team player, became the coach in the team's second season.

After a lot of hard work and dedication, the team was given the green light, and was cleared as an official NCAA Varsity sport.

Co-Captain Carla Peterman and others teammates said the time was necessary to get Howard on the map, as far as the sport of Lacrosse was concerned.

"There's a lot of potential to develop a very strong Lacrosse team," Peterman said. "To do that, we had to have a varsity team. So that [attaining varsity status] is a long time coming."

The team had some difficulty getting organized. Laurie Podmilsak, the team's official coach, was not hired until January of this semester.

ter.

"I had quite a job cut out for me," Podmilsak said. "We didn't have our schedule for 1998, equipment, our field lined or a solid group of players."

Some of the team's uniforms are still coming in. The team does not have warm-ups and a few team members do not have stickbags or cleats.

There were only seven core players from the club level that are on the current team.

"Even a lot of the players who have been at the club level haven't even been coached," Podmilsak said.

Despite their early obstacles, the team not only managed to survive, but prosper. The players were able to spark up interest in the team, and in no time there was an adequate number of players to make a team.

"People were ready," Richards said. "In addition to that students felt the excitement."

One reason for the excitement is that this team is a part of history.

"Everybody who played this year knew they were part of the history being the only HBCU with a Lacrosse team," Brown said.

After finding members, the next step was getting prepared for competition. Its first game was scheduled on Feb. 28, one month after the team was composed.

There are differences in women's and men's lacrosse.

There are only natural boundaries in women's lacrosse. This means players can play behind the goal and the ball is still inbounds. Also, all checks have to go on stick and down and away from the body.

There are no checks to players away from the ball.

"It keeps the game flowing," Podmilsak said.

The Bison took the field in a preseason tournament on the road and won two games, lost five and tied in two. Podmilsak put the first couple of tournaments into perspective.

"A lot of these teams have had teams for 10 to 15 years, and we've put this together in a matter of months," she said.

Podmilsak said that many coaches who came up to her were astonished about what her team accomplished.

"We may not have the skills, but we do have the athletes, especially the freshman," Podmilsak said.

Brown said the skill wasn't there yet, for obvious reasons.

"With any new sport you're going to have some difficulty learning the game. That comes with the athleticism," Brown said.

The team has a lot to look forward to. It does not have any senior players and three of its top players: Margaret Lester, Tarsha Drakeford and Hope Rhodes, are freshman.

The team's record stands at 2-7. It won its last game by an 18-1 margin over Trinity College.

The lacrosse team is still having tryouts for next years team.

It's season at home, this Sunday, at Greene Stadium against Navy.

Historically Black Collegiate Coalition Roundup

The 1998 Gillette Basketball Women's Super Shoot Out will be held at the Baltimore Arena, tomorrow, at 1 p.m.

Representing teams from the North will be:

Tammy Brown
*Aquenda Clark
Komecka Drakeford
*Selena Edward
*Eriade Hunter
Bremonda Jackson
*Karen Johnson
Domita Mays
*Vanessa Valez

* donates selections from the MEAC

Representing teams from the South will be:

Alesha Carter
Biakiea Carter
Tracie Glover
Kwana Graves
Lekeyshure Johnson
Tonya Norment
Rose Spann
Adrienne Tinch
Melissa Upton
Sheneeka Watkins

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Howard University
Bowie State University
Delaware State University
St. Augustine's College
University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Alcorn State University
Grambling State University
Alcorn State University
Morris Brown College
Southern University
Jackson State University
Jackson State University
Clark Atlanta University
Paine College
Miles College

The Gillette Corporation awarded \$30,000 in scholarship money to the Historically Black Collegiate Coalition. The partnership recognizes the student athlete who excels both on and off the field. Ten student athletes attending HBCUs were named to the Gillette HBCC Scholar Athlete Team.

Name	Conf/Institution	Sport	GPA
Brandon Owens	CIAA Bowie State	Baseball	3.93
Lisa Louis	CIAA St. Augustines	Volleyball	3.69
Dale W. Yarborough	Lane College	Basketball	3.88
Tenesha Byrd	Benedict College	Volleyball	3.45
Jerrell Moore	MEAC South Carolina St.	Football	3.59
Keensha Parham	MEAC Bethune-Cookman	Volleyball	3.65
Brelon Jones	SIAC Morris Brown College	Football	3.26
Mollie Williams	SIAC Kentucky University	Track	3.56
Torin Derone	SWAC Grambling	Baseball	3.94
Audie Key	SWAC Alcorn State	Volleyball	3.57

SPORTS BRIEFS

Sports Illustrated Wants To Know The Best, Worst About HU

Howard is one of the finalists in the *Sports Illustrated's* annual Best/Worst Jock Schools issue. *The Hilltop* needs your help in deciding what the 10 best or worst things about Howard athletics are. *Sports Illustrated* is looking for the school with the snazziest, most outlandish responses. So have a little fun, but remember to keep it clean.

The 10 most common or funniest responses from each category will be chosen. E-mail must be received no later than midnight, April 30, 1998. Help HU become a part of history and e-mail the 10 best and worst things about Howard athletics to jazzysports@hotmail.com. Only e-mail submissions will be accepted.

HBCC Reaches Out To HBCUs

The Historically Black Collegiate Coalition is bringing the nation's HBCUs together through corporate sponsorship. This sponsorship benefits the MEAC (Mid Eastern Atlantic Conference), SWAC (South West Atlantic Conference), SIAC, and CIAA conferences.

The HBCC is reaching out with the following programs:
HBCU on campus marketing (approximately 50 HBCUs)
HBCU scholarship programs (approximately \$50,000 annually)
HBCU campus recruiting (creates job opportunities for HBCU graduates)
SWAC and MEAC tournament sponsors
MEAC Basketball TV package
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Black Collegiate Sports Today
Black College All-Star Basketball Classic
Gillette-HBCC Scholar Athlete Team
Gillette Women's Basketball Super Shoot Out
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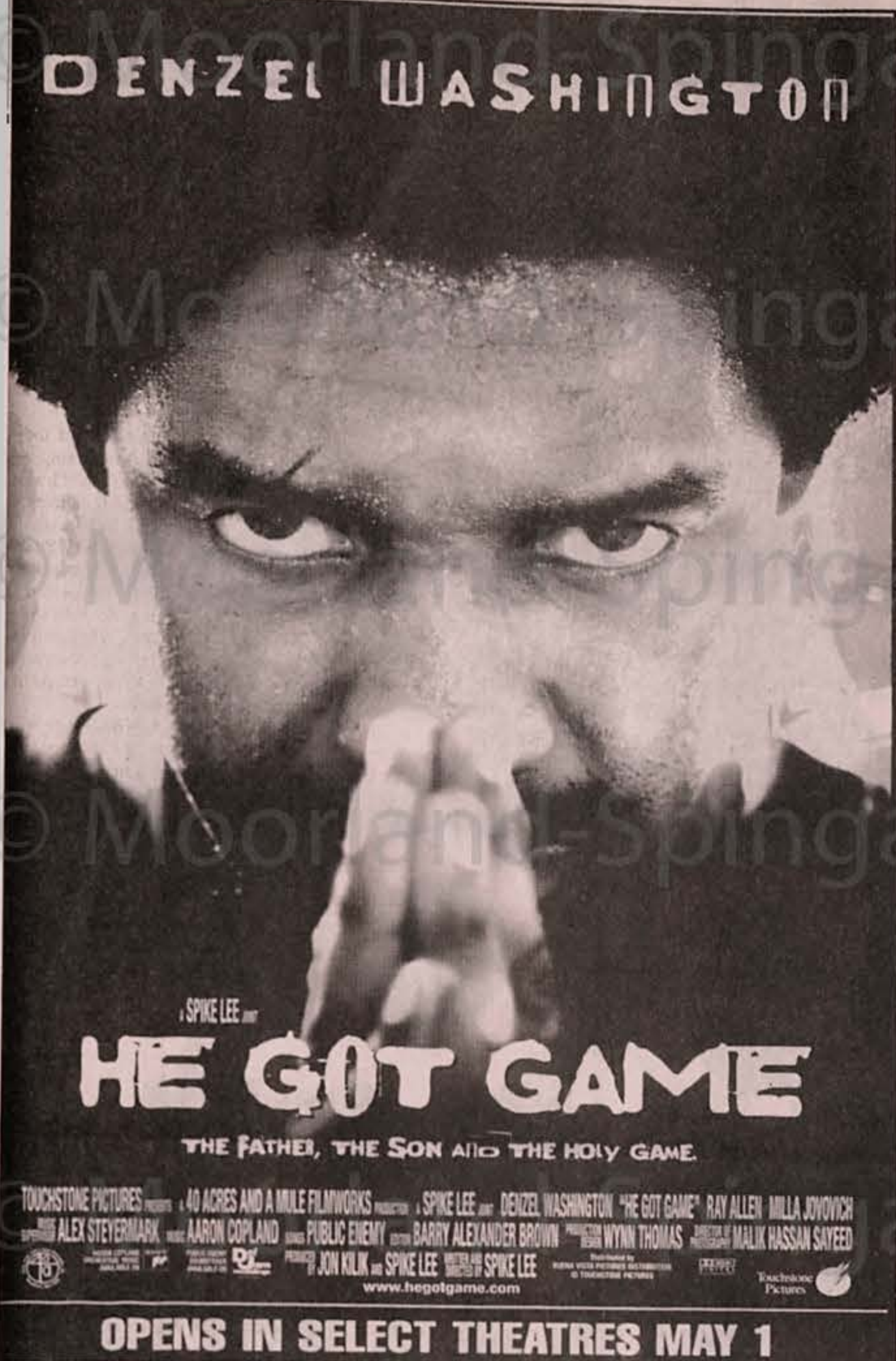
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOONDAY PRAYER, EVERY WED. AND FRI. 12PM-1PM. ANDREW RANKIN MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Looking for a GSA student organization? Join "OXALA" 202.484.7815. Who's that mowing a party with meet? What? Platinum Players Ball. April 25, 1998

Senior Cabaret April 23rd For more info call Jolanda Green or Carmesha Smith

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 6. It is during the reading period which means no classes Friday or Saturday.
 7. Carnegie holds 1500 people.
 8. 3000 people went to the last one!
 9. The Class of '98 is GRADUATING!
 10. And Last but not least, There aint no party like an HU Party cuz any other party aint sh**!
- Howard's Women's Action Coalition last meeting of the semester Tuesday April 21 Blbn Rm 142 @ 7pm ATTENTION! Soon 2 be alumni wanted 6-10 persons to participate in focus group. Call 806-5426 4 more info.

Navigators Fellowship April 17, 7:30-9:30pm Community Rm West Towers Delta Sigma Iota Rho Chapter Celebrates Spring 1998: IP350 Juliette Galligos, IP351 Jacqueline Montgomery, IP352 Danielle Ransom, IP353 Anita Cochran, IP354 Wylena Tabb, IP355 Dejn Lake, IP356 Geraldine Lazarre, IP357 Tameka Cass, IP358 Michael Warren, IP359 Nakeeta Willis, IP360 Akeisha Williams, IP361 Kenya Jorda, IP362 Lawanda Livingston, IP363 Akua Aidoo

Sexual Assault Awareness Week sponsored by the Women's Action Coalition, Brown Bag Lunch on the yard TODAY @ Noon. BYOB Bring your own blanket. Drinks served. AITN: Seniors College of Arts and Sciences Class of 1998 Senior Photo May 7 3:30pm Price \$20 Directory & T-shirts TBA

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES. COME OUT TO YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP. FRIDAY APRIL 10TH 7PM SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AUD. SPONSORED BY REJOYCE IN JESUS CAMPUS FELLOWSHIP. FOR MORE INFO CALL 202.882 WORD

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Come to an evening of Praise, Fellowship, and Fun. Come to Rejoice in Jesus Campus Fellowship Young Adults Fellowship Friday 3/10 Engineering Auditorium 7:00pm Spring is almost here! Clean the corners of your heart.

Look out for the Senior Picnic! House Party! Come and get your praise on. Stay tuned 4/18/98

House Party! Come Get your Praise On. Stay Tuned 4/18/98

Episcopal/Anglican Ministry Absalom Jones Student Association meets Tuesday @ 6:30pm Carnegie Service/Eucharist Sunday 9:00 am in Carnegie Chapel

Attn: SENIORS The time has come!! Senior Cabaret May 23 Tickets available in Locke 105 Wed 5-8pm

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Efficiency Unit-\$375 Large, Spacious, furnished efficiency unit in basement of house. Private bath&kitchen, carpeting, heat&air, parking, nearby shopping center, & bus line on NH Ave. Walk to Metro. Female student preferred. Call for appointment! Ms.Prince 202.723.1267

Large furnished room, 2nd floor, Ga. Ave., NW Share bath/kitchen. Heat/AC, wash/dry, carpet, utilities. Male preferred. \$360 Ms. Prince 202.723.1267

Rooms for rent. 1236 Irving St & 1718 6th St. Rooms from \$250-\$400 2bedroom apts from \$650 Register for summer or fall immediate occupancy for some. CAC \$50 Deposit&furnished if necessary. Call James 202.336.0019 or 202.483.8008.

Female needed for summer to share 2BD/2BA @ Cloisters. Furnished w/d. Must be clean and quiet \$450+utilities. Call 986-3843.

NW House to share. Near Howard U Beautifully renovated Victorian home. Clean, bright atmosphere. \$300-\$380 per month Call 202-387-6455

HELP WANTED

SUMMER JOB!!!! FUN!!!! EXCITING!!!! Enjoy flexible hours while working in a fun environment located on campus. Here's your chance to make a difference. \$7.00/hr plus paid training. Call Dwayne at 238-2460 and leave a message.

Childcare help. Part/time Weekend Hours available. Good Pay Fun Work. Call(202)b 387-6455

Arena Stage education Department seeks theater for the 98-99 school year. Interns help young playwrights from the DC Public schools System develop scripts. Schedule must be flexible. Monthly stipend provided. Interested candidates please send resume to Karen Evans. 1101 6th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024. Fax 202.488.4056

Writers: Writers needed for new International Magazine. Interested? Email snej@northrouk.bm or write Momentum Suite 105, 122 Middle Rd. Warwick, Bermuda Wk09

NW based Real Estate Investment Firm now seeking smart, sharp looking, well organized business minded students to help with promotional. \$6.00 to \$8.00 per hour For more info call 202-726-2335

Students Faculty Staff Top Prices Paid for used and unwanted Textbooks with Resale Value (202) 722-0701 1-800-223- Tajo

Tutor- Counselors are needed for a six week residential program. Junior, Senior or Graduate students with proficiency in English, math, computer science, science, or Spanish. 2.00 or higher GPA \$1,500 plus room and board. Applications available: Howard University Upward Bound Program, Rm. B10 Carnegie Building

Modify Your Playstation to play import games and backups (Only \$35!) Games: 1CD \$20 2 CD \$25 Call Keith @ (301) 924-4298

Looking to increase your wealth Potential? The greater DC Millionaire Society can afford you that opportunity. For informations: 301.379.2728

486 PC for Sale \$500 Includes CD Rom, modem, monitor, Windows 95 32 MB RAM. Call Michael @ (202) 518-5658.

Pentium 120MHZ system 32 Ram, 56 KMODEM 16XCD Rom, Windows 95. \$1000 Call Michael @ (202) 518-5658.

Interested in Making a difference this summer?? Calvary Women's Shelter needs volunteers to help supervise the shelter overnight. Call 202.783.6651. Barbara Byers

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Family seeking nonsmoking female college or graduate student to handle after school care for one seven yr. old exchange for private downstairs room with bath and kitchen plus \$50per wk. Fifteen hrs. per week, with some evening as well. On bus line and near Brookland; convenient to Howard, CUA, and Trinity. Car necessary. References necessary. Begin in August, but apply before end of school year. 202.832.7329

Gospel Rescue Ministries need TUTORS for students preparing for the GED exam. Please call Margo Haskins (202) 842-1731 ext. 25 for more information.

Generous 30yrs old businessman looking for very attractive woman, any race, to escort him on excursions both public and private. The successful candidate will be over 18, open minded and uninhibited, fashion conscious, not too thin and not too busy. Salary negotiable. Send Photo and vital statistics to FFC PO Box 46 Hyattsville, MD 20781

L&N Seafood Grill Restaurant Now hiring full time/Part time Day Waiters/Waitresses; Daytime/Night time Hosts/Hostesses, Apply M-F Anytime Located Pentagon City Mall-Third Level, 1100 S. Hayes Street Arlington, Va (703) 415-2055

Part time job for early mornings or and evenings with good benefit. Call Taji at 703-280-1272 24hrs

SALE FOR SALE-- 2 Bdrm Condo located on the top floor (metro accessible) @ 514 U. St. N.W. #9 open house on Sat. Jan 24th 1-4pm. \$76,900 call Lenore Carter (202) 362-2779

CAP CITY Negro League Collection Worlds Freshest Baseball Caps (202) 722-0701 1-800-223-8250.

Students Faculty Top Prices Paid for used and unwanted Textbooks with Resale Value 202.722.0701 1.800.223.Tajo

For Sale: Cheap bedroom furniture! Combined 6draw dresser/vanity and 3draw chest. Both pieces \$150 Call 202.397.1695

PERSONAL

Thanks Stephanie Miller for being there for me...Brandon

Frank, finally it's over. Now I really have to find another swamp. Im looking for one where every loon with a vendetta, ever snake with a sinus headache,... You know the rest. By the way how's it feel to be Godmother to twins?? Louie

Kongrats to my 8 Great Sants. Kontinue to be strong & determined, like "The Dreamer"

To Daren, A very special person who only deserves the best! Congratulations and HAPPY 29th Birthday. With love, Qiana

To all Hilltop Readers: The pulse and weekend Beat pages would like to bid farewell to Howard, the Hilltop and all other avid readers. We would hope you were entertained, educated, and enlightened. The Pulse has stopped Flat-line...RIP

Dearest Desdemonia: Thou hath only a few days left at the Mecca. Through your days on campus are numbered. Time is all we've got. Congratulations on being the Most sought after law school applicant and Happy Birthday in 19days...Othello

We are going to miss you Kim. Have a ball @ Mississippi State...Love your fellow designers

Congrats to the graduating Interior Design Students Nyokabi Njau and Davina Foster. The design studio wont be the same without you all!

Congratulations to the newly elected officers of Howard's Chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) President: Denise Caldwell, Vice President, Lydia Nweba, Secretary: Stephanie Gaskins, Treasurer: Charles Lewis ...From the Present Officers, Sharmell, Deanna, Kimberly, and Davina.

Welcome back Keya. We all missed YOU! Hope tonite is just as fun as the Charter Day Dinner.

Congrats to the 1998 Graduates of The 52 J.O.P.P. I wish you all the success and happiness, your heart can hold.

Congrats to the 1998 Graduates of The 47 E.N.V.Y. Are ya'll the fiercest? Sho nuff. The Sky's the limit, The world is yours.

Love 18-A-98

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To my line sisters, The 47 E.N.V.Y.: My love for you grows stronger each day, just as the Ivy does. 18-A-98

Much love to my Sister Spec, 30-A-98, The K.O.P Love 4-A-98

23-A-98, Keep your head up and continue to be strong. I am keeping you in my prayers. Through all the rough times, I will be there.

Your Sister Pers, 4-A-98.

16-A-98, I will miss you and I will continue to keep your vision fair.

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Your Sister Pers, 4-A-98.

16-A-98, I will miss you and I will continue to keep your vision fair.

Have a good summer!! Love 4-A-98.

4-A-98, It's so hard to be fun. That's why we are hated on. I wish you much success in the future and I know you will make a positive difference in the world.

Love 4-A-98.

2-A-98, 9-A-98, 19-A-98, 24-A-98, 36-A-98. I love you all very much and I am grateful to call you my sisters. Thank you for being my friends and sorors.

Love 4-A-98.

CJ, Thank you for listening and being a friend. I guess dreams really do come true.

Love Shelly

The Distinguished Gentleman Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Xi Chapter of Howard University Presents....The Kappa Kool Out Weekend Fri Apr. 24th @ Kool-out Party Carnegie Library 9pm-3am

Sat Apr.25th- The 6th Annual Kappa Kool Out Picnic Rock Creek Park Lot#6 Noon-4pm After Kool-Out Party Republic Gardens

To my darling Hilltoppers, I love you dearly. Thx for the memories and hard work ... 1997-98

1994-95 3rd Floor Baldwin